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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID ENCODING A NOVEL CHEMOTHERAPY-INDUCED PROTEIN, AND METHODS OF USE

(57) Abstract

An isolated nucleic acid molecule is provided which encodes a mammalian signal transducing protein (Killer) involved in the induction of apoptosis. The encoded protein comprises an amino-terminal extracellular domain, a hydrophobic transmembrane domain, and a carboxy-terminal death domain that can form protein-protein interactions with other death domain-containing proteins to transmit the signals required for apoptosis. The invention also provides the Killer protein and antibodies thereto. These biological molecules are useful as diagnostic and therapeutic agents for the identification, detection and regulation of complex signaling events leading to apoptotic death. The molecules may also be used to advantage for assessing the potential chemosensitivity of a targeted tumor cell. Additionally, these molecules may be used as research tools to facilitate the elucidation of the mechanistic action of the Killer proteins of the invention.

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NUCLEIC ACID ENCODING A NOVEL CHEMOTHERAPY-INDUCED PROTEIN, AND METHODS OF USE

This application claims priority to the following United States Provisional Applications, all of which are incorporated by reference herein: 60/052,305, filed July 11, 1997; 60/054,710, filed August 4, 1997; 60/060,473, filed September 30, 1997; 60/077,661, filed March 11, 1998; 60/077,628, filed March 11, 1998; and 60/077,526, filed March 11, 1998.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to diagnosis and treatment of neoplastic diseases. More specifically, this invention provides novel nucleic acid molecules, proteins and antibodies useful for detection and/or regulation of neoplastic cellular changes.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Several publications are referenced in this application to more fully describe the state of the art to which this invention pertains. The disclosure of each such publication is incorporated by reference herein.

The p53 tumor suppressor protein is a nuclear phosphoprotein that functions in cell-cycle arrest, programmed cell death (apoptosis), inhibition of tumor growth, and preservation of genetic stability. It performs these functions through involvement in several biochemical pathways, including transcriptional activation, transcriptional suppression and inhibition of DNA replication. Loss of proper p53 function in cells is one step in the progression toward a neoplastic phenotype; more than 50% of human cancers have mutations in the p53 gene (see V.E. Velculescu & W.S. El-Deiry, Clin. Chem., 42:858-868, 1996; A.J. Levine, Cell 88: 321-331, 1997).

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DNA binding and transcriptional activation are among the best-understood functions of p53. Nearly every tumor-derived p53 mutant has lost its ability to bind DNA and transcriptionally activate nearby genes. This observation suggests that these properties of p53 are critical to its role in the control of cell proliferation. The diverse nature of the genes that p53 transcriptionally regulates suggests that p53 may be involved in pathways of cell-cycle control, angiogenesis, DNA repair, differentiation, growth factor signaling and apoptosis.

Experimental evidence indicates that p53 activates a cell suicide pathway (apoptosis) after treatment with chemo- or radiotherapy. In some cell types, the cytotoxic action of anti-cancer agents may be mediated through p53-dependent apoptosis. p53 regulates a number of genes involved in apoptosis, including bax, bc1-2, insulin-like growth-factor binding protein-3 (igf-bp3), and fas. The genes for Bax and IGF-BP3 have been shown to contain p53-dependent, cis-acting, DNA-responsive elements.

Inactivation or mutation of p53 has been reported to enhance cell sensitivity to cytotoxic agents which induce DNA damage. However, the status (wild type or mutant) of p53 in tumor cells does not always correlate with chemosensitivity. Endogenous p53 status predicts in vitro chemosensitivity to the clinically useful agents Adriamycin, Carboplatinum, Cytoxan, and Etoposide in only a minority of cancer cell lines (ovarian and some Burkitt's lymphoma cells), but not in others (e.g., leukemia or lung cancer cells). Several recent studies have shown that many clinically useful drugs appear to be more effective in in vitro killing of tumor cell lines that contain wild-type p53. Furthermore, HPV16 E6-mediated degradation of p53 in a

human lung cancer cell line does not render these cells more resistant to Adriamycin or Etoposide. By contrast,

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human ovarian teratocarcinoma cells become more chemoresistant and display less death by apoptosis when the endogenous p53 protein is degraded by E6 expression. Additionally, mutations in the p53 gene do not correlate with radioresistance in a series of human squamous carcinoma cells. Finally, recent studies have shown decreased patient survival in patients who have aggressive tumors which have lost p53 following chemo- or radiotherapy (Velculescu, et. al., 1996, supra).

Certain cytokines interacting with their cognate receptors on the surface of target cells also trigger apoptosis. For example, Fas ligand (FasL) and tumor necrosis factor (TNF) are members of the TNF family of cytokines that trigger apoptosis in target cells through binding and trimerization of their respective cell surface receptors, Fas and TNF receptor 1 (TNFR1). Another TNF family cytokine is TRAIL, the cytotoxic ligand for the recently cloned DR4 receptor (Pan et al., Science 276: 111-113, 1997). Once trimerized, the death domains in the C-termini of the receptors form protein-protein interactions with the C-terminal death domains of intracellular death signal effector molecules, initiating a cascade of signals (involving activation of caspases and endonucleases) that ultimately cause apoptosis.

Wild-type p53 has been shown to upregulate production of Fas/APO-1 mRNA and protein, but as yet, no p53-responsive DNA binding site has been identified in the fas gene. Thus p53 has not been shown to directly regulate the transcription of a TNFR family member in an apoptosis pathway.

It is clear from the foregoing discussion that the relationship between p53 status and chemo- and radiosensitivity is not sufficiently understood to warrant its use in cancer therapy. As set forth above, p53 status in a tumor does not necessarily predict therapeutic outcome following such treatment. Moreover, gene replacement therapy with wild-type p53 may be ineffective, and for some tumors counterproductive, as it is not as yet predictable which tumors would respond positively or negatively to such therapy. For these reasons, there is a need to identify downstream targets of p53 function in apoptotic signaling. Once identified, such p53 targets may be utilized or regulated in apoptosis-based therapeutic approaches to the elimination of tumor cells.

10 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention provides novel nucleic acid molecules that are themselves targets of p53 activity and whose encoded proteins are involved in modulation of cellular proliferation. According to one aspect of the present invention, an isolated nucleic acid molecule is provided that includes an open reading frame encoding a mammalian p53-inducible, apoptosis-mediating protein. The protein comprises an amino-terminal extracellular domain, a transmembrane domain, and a death domain that facilitates protein-protein interactions.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the nucleic acid molecule is of human origin, and comprises a sequence substantially the same as SEQ ID NO:1, or at least substantially the same in the death domain-encoding region as SEQ ID NO:1. The invention also comprises a nucleic acid having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1. The encoded protein, which is referred to herein as "Killer," for reasons described below, preferably comprises a sequence substantially the same as SEQ ID NO:2, or at least substantially the same in the death domain of SEQ ID NO:2. A Killer protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:2 is another preferred embodiment of the invention.

In another aspect of the invention, oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with selected portions of the nucleic acid molecules of the invention are provided.

In yet another aspect of the invention,

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antibodies immunologically specific for the Killer proteins of the invention, or fragments thereof, are provided.

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According to other aspects of the present invention, uses of the nucleic acid molecules of the invention, their encoded proteins, as well as antibodies to those proteins, for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes are provided. Specifically, methods are provided for assessing the induction of "Killer" expression following exposure of tumor cells to chemotherapeutic agents. In accordance with the present invention, Killer expression is assessed in conjunction with p53 status. These methods will facilitate identification of efficacious chemotherapeutic agents as measured by the induction of apoptosis in the targeted tumor cell.

Various terms relating to the biological molecules of the present invention are used hereinabove and also throughout the specifications and claims. The terms "substantially the same," "percent similarity" and "percent identity (identical)" are defined in detail in the description set forth below.

With reference to nucleic acids of the invention, the term "isolated nucleic acid" is sometimes used. This term, when applied to DNA, refers to a DNA molecule that is separated from sequences with which it is immediately contiguous (in the 5' and 3' directions) in the naturally occurring genome of the organism from which it was derived. For example, the "isolated nucleic acid" may comprise a DNA molecule inserted into a vector, such as a plasmid or virus vector, or integrated into the genomic DNA of a procaryote or eucaryote.

With respect to RNA molecules of the invention, the term "isolated nucleic acid" primarily refers to an RNA molecule encoded by an isolated DNA molecule as defined above. Alternatively, the term may refer to an RNA molecule that has been sufficiently separated from

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RNA molecules with which it would be associated in its natural state (i.e., in cells or tissues), such that it exists in a "substantially pure" form (the term "substantially pure" is defined below).

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With respect to protein, the term "isolated protein" or "isolated and purified protein" is sometimes used herein. This term refers primarily to a protein produced by expression of an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention. Alternatively, this term may refer to a protein which has been sufficiently separated from other proteins with which it would naturally be associated, so as to exist in "substantially pure" form.

The term "substantially pure" refers to a preparation comprising at least 50-60% by weight the compound of interest (e.g., nucleic acid, oligonucleotide, protein, etc.). More preferably, the preparation comprises at least 75% by weight, and most preferably 90-99% by weight, the compound of interest. Purity is measured by methods appropriate for the compound of interest (e.g. chromatographic methods, agarose or polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, HPLC analysis, and the like).

With respect to antibodies of the invention, the term "immunologically specific" refers to antibodies that bind to one or more epitopes of a protein of interest (e.g., "Killer"), but which do not substantially recognize and bind other molecules in a sample containing a mixed population of antigenic biological molecules.

With respect to oligonucleotides, the term "specifically hybridizing" refers to the association between two single-stranded nucleotide molecules of sufficiently complementary sequence to permit such hybridization under pre-determined conditions generally used in the art (sometimes termed "substantially complementary"). In particular, the term refers to hybridization of an oligonucleotide with a substantially complementary sequence contained within a single-stranded

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DNA or RNA molecule of the invention, to the substantial exclusion of hybridization of the oligonucleotide with single-stranded nucleic acids of non-complementary sequence.

The nucleic acids, proteins and antibodies of the present invention are useful as diagnostic and therapeutic agents for the detection and treatment of cancer and other proliferative diseases. They should also find utility as research tools and will facilitate the elucidation of the mechanistic action of the novel genetic and protein interactions involved in the control of chemotherapy induced cell death.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 depicts the nucleic acid sequence of Killer, a novel adriamycin-inducible transcript. The figure shows the encoding nucleotide (SEQ ID NO:1) and predicted protein translation (SEQ ID NO:2) of the Killer open reading frame. The death domain is enclosed in a box, and the putative transmembrane domain and signal peptide sequences are underlined by double and single lines, respectively. The termination codon is indicated by a star. Killer has a perfect Kozak sequence upstream of the initiating methionine 5'-CCGCCATGG-3'.

Figs. 2A and 2B show protein sequence homology between Killer and related proteins. Amino acid homology between Killer and its closest homolog DR4 (SEQ ID NO:3) is depicted in Fig. 2A. In the case of DR4, only the predicted mature protein sequence is shown (Pan et al., 1997, supra). Identity and similarity are indicated by a star and a colon, respectively. The pairwise alignment was carried out using the MacVector—6.0 Clustal W(1.4) program (Oxford Molecular Group). Fig. 2B indicates the homology in the death domain regions of Killer and other TNF receptor family members. A multiple sequence alignment algorithm was carried out using the MacVector—6.0 Clustal W(1.4) program (Oxford Molecular Group). A

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predicted death domain consensus is shown below the alignment. The degree of greyness reflects the degree of conservation between different family members. The following amino acids were included within the death domain of each family member: Killer aa 324-393 (part of SEQ ID NO:2); DR4 aa 356-404 (part of SEQ ID NO:3), DR3 aa 346-392 (SEQ ID NO: 4), Fas/apol aa 228-277 (SEQ ID NO:5), TNFR-1 aa 330-380 (SEQ ID NO:6), and CAR 1 aa 315-333 (SEQ ID NO:7).

Figs. 3A, 3B and 3C show regulation of Killer gene expression by wild-type p53. Fig. 3A: analysis of Killer expression (upper panels) was carried out using RNA derived from different human cancer cell lines (as indicated) either untreated (-) or 10 hrs after continuous treatment (+) with an apoptosis-inducing concentration 0.3 μ g/ml) of doxorubicin (adriamycin, adria) or 500 Rads ionizing radiation. Fig. 3B: Northern analysis shows that Killer mRNA expression is increased in H460 lung cancer cells 10 hours after continuous treatment with 0.3 μ g/ml doxorubicin (adriamycin), 5 μ M Etoposide or a dose of 2,000 rads ionizing radiation at time zero. Fig. 3C: Northern analysis showing induction of Killer mRNA expression in mutant p53-expressing colon, ovarian or breast cancer cells 12 hours after infection by either Ad-LacZ or Ad-p53. An ethidium stain of the RNA (lower panels) indicates equivalent RNA loading (10 μq) of the lanes in each experiment, and the p53 status of each cell line is shown below the ethidium stains (Figs 3A, 3C).

Fig. 4 is a graph illustrating that expression of the death domain in *E. coli* is toxic. Bacteria were transformed with pGEX-GD vector encoding the death domain of Killer in the presence (open squares, open circles) or absence (closed squares, closed circles) of glucose. Induction of death domain expression by IPTG resulted in a dramatic decrease in absorbance which was unaffected by the presence or absence of glucose ruling out a

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catabolite repression effect.

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Fig. 5 shows that Killer is not induced in p53-dependent G1 arrest. Fig 5A: to induce p53-dependent cell cycle arrest in the absence of DNA damage, GM cells carrying a dexamethasone-inducible wild-type p53 exogenous transgene were incubated in the absence (lane 1) or presence (lanes 2-4) of dexamethasone. After incubation for increasing periods of time (as indicated) total RNA was isolated and Northern blot analysis, using either the human Killer (upper panel) or the human p21 (middle panel) cDNA as probes, was performed as described in Materials and Methods. ethidium bromide stain of the RNA is shown (lower panel) to document equivalent loading of the gel. Fig. 5B: induce a DNA damage/p53-dependent cell cycle arrest, WI38 cells were exposed to either 2 Gy or 10 Gy g-radiation. Total RNA was harvested at 10 hrs and Northern blotting performed as in A using either the Killer (upper panel) or the p21 (middle panel) cDNA as a probe. An ethidium bromide stain of the RNA is shown (lower panel) to document equivalent loading of the gel.

Figs. 6A and 6B show expression of Killer in cells undergoing apoptosis following Ad-p53 infection. Fig. 6A: expression of Killer is increased in GM cells undergoing apoptosis but not growth arrest. Northern blots of Killer mRNA expression in GM cells that were untreated (lane 1), treated with dexamethasone to induce a p53-dependent cell cycle arrest (lane 2), infected by Ad-LacZ as a control (lane 3) or infected by Ad-p53 (lane 4). An ethidium bromide stain is shown (below; 28S and 30 18S RNA indicated by arrows) to document equivalent loading of the RNA samples. Fig. 6B: p53-dependent upregulation of Killer mRNA expression occurs early in SKOV3 cells and continues for the next 48 hrs. 35 analysis of total RNA harvested at increasing time points (as indicated) following infection of SKOV3 cells by Ad-LacZ (lanes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) or Ad-p53 (lanes 3, 5, 7,

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9, 11) for Killer expression.

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Figs. 7A and 7B show transcriptional control of TRAIL death receptor expression in p53-dependent apoptosis. The human ovarian carcinoma cell line SKOV3 (Fig. 7A) or the human glioblastoma cell line GM (Fig. 7B) were infected by Ad-Lac2 (lanes 1,2) or Ad-p53 (lanes 3,4). Following infection for one hour, cells were incubated either in the absence ("-" as indicated; lanes 1,3) or in the presence ("+" as indicated; lanes 2,4) of 30 ng/ml Actinomycin D for an additional 20 hrs when total cellular RNA was harvested for northern blotting for expression of Killer, p21, MDM2, and p53 mRNA (as indicated). An ethidium stain of the RNA is shown (lowest panels) to document equivalent loading of the gel.

Fig. 8 is a diagram of the physical map of the coding region of the human Killer gene. Exons are shown as black boxes; the number of the exon ("e") together with its size (in kb) are indicated above the boxes. The introns are shown as clear boxes and their respective sizes (in kb) are written within. The double headed arrows below represent the products of PCR reactions, shown together with their respective sizes. The translation initiation codon is depicted with a bent arrow, and the translation stop codon with a blunted arrow. The genomic position of the signal sequence (SS), the transmembrane domain (TM) and the death domain (DD) are indicated above the bar. The positions and the number of the extracellular Cysteine residues (C) are drawn above the bar. The gray boxes represent the position of clones obtained through subcloning P1-Killer, PstI digestion fragments (hybridizing to probes-A and B on Southern blots, shown above the boxes), into pBluescript.

Fig. 9 is the nucleotide sequence of a genomic clone of Killer, "P1-Killer" (SEQ ID NO:14). The putative CAT and TATA boxes are indicated, as is the putative start codon.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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As described above, p53 plays a pivotal and complex role in preventing malignant transformation. In some instances, p53 has been found to activate apoptosis after treatment of cells with chemotherapeutic agents or radiation. However, the relationship between p53 status and sensitivity or resistance to such treatments remains unclear, making it difficult to design or implement therapeutic strategies based on p53. Identification of downstream targets of p53 function in apoptotic signaling would help overcome this difficulty. One such target has now been identified in accordance with the present invention.

Using a subtractive hybridization technique, the inventors have identified a unique cDNA clone corresponding to a gene whose expression is upregulated in Adriamycin-treated chemosensitive teratocarcinoma cells. The pattern of inducibility of the gene product correlates well with the p53 status of the cell lines, indicating that expression of the gene is regulated by p53. The cloning and analysis of that cDNA is described in detail below.

From the deduced amino acid sequence of the cDNA, it has been determined that the gene encodes a protein that is a new member of the tumor necrosis factor receptor (TNFR) protein family. This protein is referred to herein as "Killer" or "Killer protein", in view of its presumed role in induction of apoptosis. The genomic DNA or cDNA that encodes the Killer protein is sometimes referred to herein as the "killer" gene or cDNA.

The TNFR family includes two TNFRs (TNFR1 and TNFR2), the receptor for lymphotoxin-β, nerve growth factor (NGF) receptor (p75), CD40, CD27, CD30, DR3 (death receptor-3), DR4, HVEM (herpes virus early mediator), and

CAR1 (cytopathic avian leukosis-sarcoma virus receptor. See Beutler, B. & Van Huffel, Ann. NY Acad. Sci., 730:118-133 (1994), S. Nagata, Cell, 88:355-365 (1997), G. Pan, et al., Science, 276:111-113 (1997). The Killer protein of the invention shares general structural features of the TNFR family in that it is believed to comprise three domains: (1) an extracellular domain at the amino terminus; (2) a transmembrane domain in the central region; and (3) a carboxyl "death" domain. Functionally, Killer is believed to behave in general like a TNFR: the extracellular domain functions as receptor for a cognate extracellular ligand (analogous to TNF for TNFR1); binding of the ligand to the extracellular receptor domain initiates a conformational change through the transmembrane domain to the death domain, which transduces a signal (or cascade of signals) within the cell that ultimately induces apoptosis.

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A comparison of Killer with the closely related members of the TNFR (specifically focusing on the death domain) family is set forth in greater detail in Example 1 and shown in Figures 1B and 2. As can be seen, though Killer shares sufficient amino acid sequence similarity with other members of the TNFR family to warrant including it within that family, it is a unique member of that family. The closest homolog is DR4, which shares only about 64% amino acid sequence identity with Killer, even in the most conserved death domain, and about 60% identity comparing all of SEQ ID NO:2, which comprises the death domain, the transmembrane domain and the extracellular domain. Moreover, expression of the Killer gene appears to be regulated by p53, presumably through one or more p53 binding sites. The gene that encodes DR4 has not been reported to be regulated by p53.

Killer also appears to be unique in that it is regulated by DNA damage. Results obtained by the present inventor demonstrate that, whereas Killer mRNA expression is induced by DNA damage in wild-type p53 containing

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cells, so such universal phenomenon was observed for either DR4 or the decoy receptor, TRID.

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Loss of Killer's apoptotic function has also been linked to a human cancer. Transfections of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma, colon and ovarian carcinoma cell lines revealed loss of growth-suppressive function associated with a *Killer* truncation mutant derived from head and neck tumor.

Example 2 describes further important characteristics of Killer. In that Example it is shown that, unlike the p53-target CDK-inhibitor p21 WAF1/CIPI, Killer is only induced in cells undergoing p53-dependent apoptosis and not cell cycle arrest. Inhibition of transcription by Actinomycin D blocks both Killer and p21 gene induction in cells undergoing p53-dependent apoptosis, indicating that p53 regulation of Killer is transcriptional.

The DNA of the invention encodes a Killer The gene, its corresponding cDNA and encoded protein have been designated Killer due to its involvement in the apoptotic pathway. The gene is turned on early in the dying process in chemotherapy treated chemosensitive, but not chemoresistant ovarian cancer cells. Apoptosis is a type of cell death that is thought to be under direct genetic control. During apoptosis, cells lose their cell junctions and microvilli. cytoplasm condenses and nuclear chromatin marginates into a number of discrete masses. While the nucleus fragments, the cytoplasm contracts and mitochondria and ribosomes become densely compacted. After dilation of the endoplasmic reticulum and its fusion with the plasma membrane, the cell breaks up into several membrane bound vesicles, also known as apoptotic bodies, which are usually phagocytosed by adjacent cells.

The death domain of Killer is highly homologous to such domains in other known death receptors that cause apoptosis in response to a variety of other signals. In

accordance with the present invention, it has also been shown that the expression of the death domain in *E. coli* is toxic.

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Figure 1 sets forth the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) and deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) of a cDNA of human origin encoding Killer protein of the invention. SEQ ID NO:1 comprises the complete coding sequence of Killer. The protein contains a transmembrane domain, a C-terminal death domain, and an N-terminal extracellular domain. This sequence information indicates that Killer may be classified as a new member of the TNFR family, as discussed above.

Although the human Killer-encoding gene is described and exemplified herein, the present invention also encompasses nucleic acid sequences and proteins from 15 other species that are functionally and structurally homologous to be used interchangeably with Killerencoding nucleic acids and proteins for the diagnostic, therapeutic, and research purposes described below. Because of the high degree of conservation of genes 20 encoding specific signal transducers and related oncogenes, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that, even if the interspecies Killer similarity is low, Killer-encoding nucleic acids and Killer proteins from a variety of mammalian species should possess a 25 sufficient degree of homology with Killer so as to be interchangeably useful with Killer in such diagnostic and therapeutic applications. Accordingly, the present invention is drawn to mammalian Killer-encoding nucleic acids and Killer proteins, preferably to Killer of 30 primate origin, and most preferably to Killer of human origin. Accordingly, when terms such as "Killer" or "Killer-encoding nucleic acid" are used herein, they are intended to encompass mammalian Killer-encoding nucleic acids and Killer proteins falling within the confines of 35 homology set forth below, of which human Killer is an exemplary member.

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Allelic variants and natural mutants of SEQ ID NO:1 are likely to exist within the human genome and within the genomes of other mammalian species. Because such variants are expected to possess certain differences in nucleotide and amino acid sequence, this invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule and an isolated Killer protein having at least about 50-60% (preferably 60-80%, most preferably over 80%) sequence homology in the coding region with the nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1, and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. Such nucleic acid sequences will also specifically hybridize with SEQ ID NO:1 or its complement.

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Because of the natural sequence variation likely to exist among Killer proteins and nucleic acids encoding them, one skilled in the art would expect to find up to about 40-50% sequence variation, while still maintaining the unique properties of the Killer protein of the present invention. Such an expectation is due in part to the degeneracy of the genetic code, as well as to the known evolutionary success of conservative amino acid sequence variations, which do not appreciably alter the nature of the protein. Accordingly, such variants are considered substantially the same as one another and are included within the scope of the present invention.

"substantially the same" refers to nucleic acid or amino acid sequences having sequence variations that are conservative or neutral. With particular reference to nucleic acid sequences, the term "substantially the same" is intended to refer to the coding region and to conserved sequences governing expression, and refers primarily to degenerate codons encoding the same amino acid, or alternate codons encoding conservative substitute amino acids in the encoded polypeptide. With reference to amino acid sequences, the term "substantially the same" refers generally to conservative

substitutions and/or variations in regions of the polypeptide. The terms "percent identity" and "percent similarity" are also used herein in comparisons among amino acid sequences. These terms are intended to be defined as they are in the UWGCG sequence analysis program (Devereaux et al., Nucl. Acids Res. 12: 387-397, 1984), available from the University of Wisconsin.

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The following description sets forth the general procedures involved in practicing the present invention. To the extent that specific materials are mentioned, it is merely for purposes of illustration and is not intended to limit the invention. Unless otherwise specified, general cloning procedures, such as those set forth in Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1989) (hereinafter "Sambrook et al.") are used.

I. Preparation of Killer-Encoding Nucleic Acid Molecules, Killer Proteins and Antibodies Immunologically Specific for those Proteins

A. <u>Nucleic Acid Molecules</u>

Nucleic acid molecules encoding the Killer proteins of the invention may be prepared by two general methods: (1) they may be synthesized from appropriate nucleotide triphosphates, or (2) they may be isolated from biological sources. Both methods utilize protocols well known in the art.

The availability of nucleotide sequence information, such as the cDNA having SEQ ID NO:1, enables preparation of an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention by oligonucleotide synthesis. Synthetic oligonucleotides may be prepared by the phosphoramadite method employed in the Applied Biosystems 38A DNA Synthesizer or similar devices. The resultant construct may be purified according to methods known in the art, such as high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). Long, double-stranded polynucleotides, such as a DNA

molecule of the present invention, must be synthesized in stages, due to the size limitations inherent in current oligonucleotide synthetic methods. Thus, for example, a 4.44 kb double-stranded molecule may be synthesized as several smaller segments of appropriate complementarity. Complementary segments thus produced may be annealed such that each segment possesses appropriate cohesive termini for attachment of an adjacent segment. Adjacent segments may be ligated by annealing cohesive termini in the presence of DNA ligase to construct an entire double-stranded molecule. A synthetic DNA molecule so constructed may then be cloned and amplified in an appropriate vector.

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Nucleic acid sequences encoding Killer may be isolated from appropriate biological sources using methods known in the art. In a preferred embodiment, a cDNA clone is isolated by subtractive hybridization of a cDNA library of human origin. In an alternative embodiment, human genomic clones encoding Killer may be isolated. In fact, genomic clones of Killer have been isolated (an exemplary clone, P1-Killer, is shown in Fig. 9), and a complete physical map of the Killer gene, located on human chromosome 8p21, has been constructed (Figure 8). Alternatively, Killer cDNA or genomic clones from other mammalian species may be obtained.

In accordance with the present invention, nucleic acids having the appropriate level sequence homology with a selected region of SEQ ID NO:1 (e.g. the segment encoding the transmembrane domain or the death domain) may be identified by using hybridization and washing conditions of appropriate stringency. For example, hybridizations may be performed, according to the method of Sambrook et al., using a hybridization solution comprising: 5X SSC, 5X Denhardt's reagent, 1.0% SDS, 100 μ g/ml denatured, fragmented salmon sperm DNA, 0.05% sodium pyrophosphate and up to 50% formamide. Hybridization is carried out at 37-42°C for at least six

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hours. Following hybridization, filters are washed as follows: (1) 5 minutes at room temperature in 2X SSC and 1% SDS; (2) 15 minutes at room temperature in 2X SSC and 0.1% SDS; (3) 30 minutes-1 hour at 37°C in 1X SSC and 1% SDS; (4) 2 hours at 42-65°in 1X SSC and 1% SDS, changing the solution every 30 minutes.

One common formula for calculating the stringency conditions required to achieve hybridization between nucleic acid molecules of a specified sequence homology (Sambrook et al., 1989):

 $T_m = 81.5$ °C + 16.6Log [Na+] + 0.41(% G+C) - 0.63 (% formamide) - 600/#bp in duplex

As an illustration of the above formula, using [N+] = [0.368] and 50% formamide, with GC content of 42% and an average probe size of 200 bases, the T_m is 57°C. The T_m of a DNA duplex decreases by 1 - 1.5°C with every 1% decrease in homology. Thus, targets with greater than about 75% sequence identity would be observed using a hybridization temperature of 42°C. Such sequences would be considered substantially complementary to the probe.

Nucleic acids of the present invention may be maintained as DNA in any convenient cloning vector. In a preferred embodiment, clones are maintained in plasmid cloning/expression vector, such as pBluescript (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA), which is propagated in a suitable *E. coli* host cell. Optionally, the vectors may contain inducible promoter sequences, such as metallothionine, tetracycline or dexamethasone responsive promoters. Such vectors enable the investigator to regulate the expression of killer protein in the transformed tumor cell while assessing induction of apoptosis.

Killer-encoding nucleic acid molecules of the invention include cDNA, genomic DNA, RNA, and fragments thereof which may be single- or double-stranded. Thus, this invention provides oligonucleotides (sense or

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antisense strands of DNA or RNA) having sequences capable of hybridizing with at least one sequence of a nucleic acid molecule of the present invention, such as selected segments of the cDNA having SEQ ID NO:1. Such oligonucleotides are useful as probes for detecting Killer genes in test samples of potentially malignant cells or tissues, e.g. by PCR amplification, or for the isolation of homologous regulators of apoptosis.

In addition, 5' and 3' regulatory sequences of Killer, available on the genomic clone discussed above, can be used to advantage. For instance, the promoter sequence can be cloned upstream of a reporter gene, so that drug screening can be performed to isolate compounds that induce Killer's expression. Reporters may include LacZ, Luciferase, GFP, Hygromycin, or other negative or positive selection markers.

B. Proteins

A Killer protein of the present invention may be prepared in a variety of ways, according to known methods. The protein may be purified from appropriate sources, e.g., human or animal cultured cells or tissues, by immunoaffinity purification. However, this is not a preferred method due to the low amount of protein likely to be present in a given cell type at any time.

The availability of nucleic acids molecules encoding Killer enables production of the protein using in vitro expression methods known in the art. For example, a cDNA or gene may be cloned into an appropriate in vitro transcription vector, such a pSP64 or pSP65 for in vitro transcription, followed by cell-free translation in a suitable cell-free translation system, such as wheat germ or rabbit reticulocytes. In vitro transcription and translation systems are commercially available, e.g.,

from Promega Biotech, Madison, Wisconsin or BRL, Rockville, Maryland.

Alternatively, according to a preferred

embodiment, larger quantities of Killer may be produced by expression in a suitable procaryotic or eucaryotic system. For example, part or all of a DNA molecule, such as the cDNA having SEQ ID NO:1 may be inserted into a plasmid vector adapted for expression in a bacterial cell, such as *E. coli*, or into a baculovirus vector for expression in an insect cell. Such vectors provide the regulatory elements necessary for expression of the DNA in the given host cell, positioned in such a manner as to permit expression of the DNA in the host cell. Such regulatory elements required for expression include promoter sequences, transcription initiation sequences and, optionally, enhancer sequences.

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The Killer protein produced by gene expression in a recombinant procaryotic or eucyarotic system may be purified according to methods known in the art. In a preferred embodiment, a commercially available expression/secretion system can be used, whereby the recombinant protein is expressed and thereafter secreted from the host cell, to be easily purified from the surrounding medium. If expression/secretion vectors are not used, an alternative approach involves purifying the recombinant protein by affinity separation, such as by immunological interaction with antibodies that bind specifically to the recombinant protein. Such methods are commonly used by skilled practitioners.

The Killer proteins of the invention, prepared by the aforementioned methods, may be analyzed according to standard procedures. For example, such proteins may be subjected to amino acid sequence analysis, according to known methods.

The present invention also provides antibodies which bind immunospecifically to Killer proteins may be prepared according to standard methods. In a preferred embodiment, monoclonal antibodies are prepared, which react immunospecifically with various epitopes of Killer. Monoclonal antibodies may be prepared according to

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general methods of Köhler and Milstein, following standard protocols. Polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies that immunospecifically interact with Killer can be utilized for identifying and purifying such proteins. For example, antibodies may be utilized for affinity separation of proteins with which they immunospecifically interact. Antibodies may also be used to immunoprecipitate proteins from a sample containing a mixture of proteins and other biological molecules. Other uses of anti-Killer antibodies are described below.

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II. Uses of Killer-Encoding Nucleic Acids, Killer Proteins and Antibodies Thereto

Cellular signaling molecules, including proteins involved in apoptosis pathways, have received a great deal of attention as potential mediators of selective killing of tumor cells for the elimination of cancer from the body. As a signaling molecule involved in p53-mediated apoptosis, Killer and related proteins from other mammalian species will be particularly useful as diagnostic and therapeutic agents. Such molecules will also provide valuable research tools.

A. Killer-Encoding Nucleic Acids

Killer-encoding nucleic acids may be used for a variety of purposes in accordance with the present invention. Killer-encoding DNA, RNA, or fragments thereof may be used as probes to detect the presence of and/or expression of genes encoding Killer, as well as to identify alterations of killer, resulting in loss of function, as they arise in various cancers. In this regard, it should be noted that the diagnostic value of detecting Killer expression, even at the mRNA level, is significant. Killer DNA may be hypermethylated or simply not activated after exposure to chemotherapy in tumors that go on to become treatment-resistant. Such

information may be useful in designing chemotherapy for particular patients. Methods in which Killer-encoding nucleic acids may be utilized as probes for such assays include, but are not limited to: (1) in situ hybridization; (2) Southern hybridization (3) northern hybridization; and (4) assorted amplification reactions such as polymerase chain reactions (PCR).

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The Killer-encoding nucleic acids of the invention may also be utilized as probes to identify related genes either from humans or from other species. As is well known in the art, hybridization stringencies may be adjusted to allow hybridization of nucleic acid probes with complementary sequences of varying degrees of homology. Thus, Killer-encoding nucleic acids may be used to advantage to identify and characterize other genes of varying degrees of relation to Killer, thereby enabling further characterization of the signaling cascade involved in the control of apoptosis in different cell types. Additionally, they may be used to identify genes encoding proteins that interact with Killer (e.g., by the "interaction trap" technique), which should further accelerate elucidation of these cellular signaling mechanisms (Golemis, et al., Interaction trap/two-hybrid systems to identify interacting proteins, Unit 20.1.1-20.1.28 in Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, eds. F.M. Ausubel, et al. John Wiley & Sons, NY (1996). Yeast two-hybrid screening may be used to identify the extracellular ligand(s) for Killer, and the proteins that interact with the cytoplasmic portions of Killer, including death domain-containing protein partners. Killer may function to promote apoptosis through a pathway analogous to the Fas and TNFR1 systems. The Fas apoptosis pathway is activated by the binding of Fas ligand (FasL) to Fas, and TNF-induced apoptosis begins by ligation of TNF to TNFR1. The use of interaction trap/two-hybrid assays will permit the

identification of Killer-specific, extracellular ligands

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which trigger the Killer apoptosis cascade. Further, these assays will be used to identify the intracellular proteins that interact with Killer to potentiate the signal within the cell.

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Nucleic acid molecules, or fragments thereof, encoding Killer may also be utilized to control the expression of Killer, thereby regulating the amount of protein available to participate in apoptosis signaling pathways. Alterations in the physiological amount of Killer protein may act synergistically with chemotherapeutic agents used to treat cancer.

In one embodiment, the nucleic acid molecules of the invention may be used to decrease production of Killer protein in a population of cells. In this embodiment, Killer proteins would be made unavailable for the transduction of specific apoptosis signals, providing a model system for research purposes. embodiment, antisense oligonucleotides are employed which are targeted to specific regions of Killer-encoding genes that are critical for gene expression. The use of antisense oligonucleotides to decrease expression levels of a pre-determined gene is known in the art. preferred embodiment, such antisense oligonucleotides are modified in various ways to increase their stability and membrane permeability, so as to maximize their effective delivery to target cells in vitro and in vivo. modifications include the preparation of phosphorothioate or methylphosphonate derivatives, among many others, according to procedures known in the art. Antisense molecules may also be introduced on conventional DNA vectors used for gene therapy. Once in the appropriate target cells, the antisense molecule is produced by expression of a recombinant DNA segment under control of appropriate promoters and other regulatory sequences.

In another embodiment designed to decrease Killer expression or activity, inhibitors of such expression or activity are identified and utilized. Such

inhibitors would be useful not only for laboratory studies, but also therapeutically, as agents that protect normal tissue against the cytotoxic effects of chemotherapy. A similar approach is being taken, for example, using expression of the MDR1 glycoprotein in bone marrow cells. The MDR1 glycoprotein has been found to be overexpressed in tumor cells that have become resistant to chemotherapeutic agents. Inhibitors of MDR1 are useful to counteract this effect. Similarly, if Killer mutates in any tumors and such mutant Killer interferes with cell death pathwayss, then inhibitors of Killer would be of direct therapeutic value in such cases.

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In another embodiment, overexpression of Killer is induced in a target population of cells to generate an excess of Killer molecules. This excess production of Killer may be monitored with immunofluorescence or any other standard technique known in the art. Further, excess production of Killer protein will trigger apoptosis and facilitate the isolation and characterization of the intracellular death domain-containing proteins that interact with Killer and potentiate the apoptosis signal.

Another embodiment of the invention is excess production of the Killer death domain in target cells to assess the effect of the death domain on apoptosis signaling and chemosensitivity.

Another use of the nucleic acids of the invention is in gene replacement therapy for expression of Killer in instances of null or mutant p53 status in a particular target tumor, such that apoptosis may be triggered in tumor cells that will not die in response to chemotherapy. Gene therapy to provide a functional Killer to cells lacking the functional protein is also contemplated. This sort of gene therapy should prove particularly useful in cancers (such as the head and neck cancer described above) specifically associated with a

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disrupted Killer gene.

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As described above, Killer-encoding nucleic acids are also used to advantage to produce large quantities of substantially pure Killer protein, or selected portions thereof. In a preferred embodiment, the C-terminal death domain of Killer (see Figure 1B) is produced by expression of a nucleic acid encoding the domain. The full-length protein or selected domain is thereafter used for various research, diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, as described below.

B. Killer Protein and Antibodies

Purified Killer, or fragments thereof, may be used to produce polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies which also may serve as sensitive detection reagents for the presence and accumulation of Killer (or complexes containing Killer) in cultured cells or tissues from living patients (the term "patients" refers to both humans and animals). Recombinant techniques enable expression of fusion proteins containing part or all of the Killer protein. The full length protein or fragments of the protein may be used to advantage to generate an array of monoclonal antibodies specific for various epitopes of the protein, thereby providing even greater sensitivity for detection of the protein in cells or tissue.

Polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies immunologically specific for Killer may be used in a variety of assays designed to detect and quantitate the protein, which may serve as a prognostic indicator for malignant disease. Such assays include, but are not limited to: (1) flow cytometric analysis; (2) immunochemical localization in Killer in cultured cells or biopsy tissue; and (3) immunoblot analysis (e.g., dot blot, Western blot) of extracts from various cells and tissues. Additionally, as described above, anti-Killer antibodies can be used for purification of Killer (e.g.,

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affinity column purification, immunoprecipitation).

Anti-Killer antibodies may also be utilized as therapeutic agents to block the normal functionality of Killer in a target cell population. Thus, similar to the antisense oligonucleotides described above, anti-Killer antibodies may be delivered to a target cell population by methods known in the art (i.e. through various lipophilic carriers that enable delivery of the compound of interest to the target cell cytoplasm) where the antibodies may interact with intrinsic Killer protein to render it nonfunctional.

Alternatively, the possibility exists that anti-Killer antibodies may in fact activate Killer's receptor and have a therapeutic value in inducing apoptosis. Precedent exists for such a function, for instance, with anti-Fas antibodies. An anti-Killer antibody use for such a purpose may prove superior to the true ligand, and it may be deliverable intravenously, depending on its specificity for cancer cells, and absence of toxicity. The antibody also may be injected directly into a tumor.

From the foregoing discussion, it can be seen that Killer-encoding nucleic acids and antibodies to Killer proteins of the invention can be used to detect gene expression and protein accumulation for purposes of assessing the genetic and protein interactions involved in the regulation of apoptosis in both wild-type p53 positive and negative cells.

Aberrant signal transduction in cells is often correlated with cellular transformation and cancer of various tissue types. It is expected that these tools will be particularly useful for diagnosis and prognosis of human neoplastic disease as described above. Potentially of greater significance, however, is the utility of Killer-encoding nucleic acids, proteins and antibodies as agents to assess and alter the chemosensitivity of a targeted tumor cell. In any of

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their therapeutic uses, the nucleic acids, proteins and antibodies of the invention can be used alone, or as adjuncts to other therapeutic agents.

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Although the compositions of the invention have 5 been described with respect to human diagnostics and therapeutics, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that these tools will also be useful in animal and cultured cell experimentation with respect to various malignancies and/or other conditions manifested by altered patterns of apoptosis or lack of apoptosis in 10 response to DNA damaging agents or ionizing radiation. They can also be used to generate animal model systems. e.g. "knockout" animals that do not express the gene, as a model of cancer susceptibility. Such animals are useful as models for human disease and treatment thereof, 15 inasmuch as they may exhibit phenotypes that may mimic a developmental abnormality and may have a predisposition to cancer, especially following exposure to carcinogens. In connection with this embodiment, it is preferable to clone a mouse homolog of Killer, according to standard 20 methods as described above.

The following Examples are provided to describe the invention in further detail. The examples are intended to illustrate and not to limit the invention.

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EXAMPLE 1 Isolation and Characterization of a Nucleic Acid Molecule Encoding Human Killer Protein

In this Example the cloning of a cDNA molecule encoding human Killer is described. To identify genes transcriptionally regulated by wild-type p53 in response to DNA damage, a cDNA library enriched for the presence of such genes was constructed and screened by a subtractive hybridization technique. The cell line used as a source for the cDNA library was PA-1, a human, wildtype p53-positive, ovarian teratocarcinoma. p53 status

correlates with chemosensitivity in these cells (Wu & El-Deiry, Nature Med. 2: 255-256, 1996).

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Materials and Methods Cell lines and culture conditions. The human leukemia cell line ML-1, a gift from Michael B. Kastan (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD), the human lung cancer cell line H460, a gift from Stephen B. Baylin (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD) and the human colon carcinoma cell line HCT-116, a gift from Dr. Bert 10 Vogelstein (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD) were maintained in RPMI 1640 supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS), 1% penicillin and streptomycin (Wu et al., Clin. Cancer Res. 2: 623-633, 1996; Prabhu et 15 al., Clin. Cancer Res. 2: 1221-1229, 1996). The human ovarian cancer cell lines PA-1 and SKOV3, and the human breast cancer line SKBr3 were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (Rockville, MD) and maintained as previously described (Wu et al., 1996, Supra; 20 Blagosklonny & El Deiry, Int. J. Cancer 67: 386-397, 1996). The human colon carcinoma cell line SW480 was obtained from the University of Pennsylvania Cell Center and maintained as previously described (Fuchs et al., Cancer Res. <u>57</u>: 2550-2554, 1997). HPV-E6 expressing clones of HCT-116, PA-1, and H460 were transfected and 25 maintained as previously described (Wu & El Deiry, Nature Med. 2: 255-256, 1996; Wu et al., 1996, supra; Prabhu et al., 1996, supra). Cells were grown in the presence of 0.3 μ g/ml adriamycin for 10 hrs followed by isolation of 30 total RNA as previously described (El Deiry et al., Cell 75: 817-825, 1993). H460-neo and H460-E6 cells were irradiated at 500 rads and grown for 10 hrs followed by

35 Replication-deficient adenovirus recombinants expressing β -galactosidase (Ad-LacZ) or wild-type p53 (Ad-p53) were gifts from Dr. B. Vogelstein (Johns Hopkins University),

al., 1997, supra; El Deiry et al., 1993, supra).

isolation of total RNA as previously described (Fuchs et

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and were prepared, titered, and used as previously described (Fuchs et al., 1997, supra; Blagosklonny & El Deiry, 1996, supra; El Deiry et al., 1993, supra). Cell lines were infected at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 50, and total protein and RNA were harvested 20 hrs later. The infectivity of the cell lines was determined by X-gal staining, as previously described (Blagosklonny & El Deiry, 1996, supra).

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Subtractive hybridization screening. ovarian teratocarcinoma cells (Wu & El Deiry, 1996, 10 supra) were incubated for 10 hrs in the presence of 0.3 μ g/ml adriamycin. A cDNA library was constructed using poly(A+) RNA prepared from the adriamycin-treated cells. A total of 50,000 plaques were differentially screened by hybridization to the following: (1) a cDNA probe prepared 15 from equal portions of RNA isolated from untreated PA1-neo cells and PA1-E6 cells, and (2) a subtracted probe prepared by using 500 ng cDNA from adriamycin-treated PA1-neo cells as target and a total of 20 20 μ g driver poly (A+) RNA (10 μ g from untreated PA1-neo cells and 10 μ g from adriamycin-treated PA1-E6 cells). The cDNA library and probes were prepared using previously described methods (El Deiry et al., 1993).

The initial isolate of the Killer cDNA was 0.6

kb of the extreme 3'-untranslated region and this hybridized to a 4.4 kb mRNA species. Hybridization of this probe to the original oligo dT-primed adriamycin-treated PA1 cDNA library yielded a 2.0 kb fragment containing 3'-untranslated Killer sequence with no homology in the Genbank database. We performed 5'-RACE PCR to obtain the 5'-coding sequence of Killer using the Marathon CDNA Amplification Kit (Clontech).

Northern Blot Analyses. Northern blot analyses were performed using either 10 μg of total cellular RNA

(Figs. 1A,3) or 2 μg poly (A+) RNA (Multiple Tissue Northern (MTN™) Blot from Clontech) as previously described. The PA1-neo/E6 northern blot was probed with

a 600 bp 3' untranslated region of the Killer cDNA. All other northern blots were probed with a 1.14 kb fragment from the C-terminal coding region of the Killer cDNA. In addition, a 2.0 kb human β -actin probe (Clontech) was used to probe the MTN $^{-1}$ blot. p21 mRNA expression was detected as previously described (Fuchs et al., 1996, supra; El Deiry et al., 1993, supra).

Plasmids. The full-length open reading frame of the Killer cDNA was amplified by RT-PCR from adriamycin-treated PA1 cellular RNA using 10 5'-CCCAAGCTTCCGCCATGGAACAACGGGGAC-3' (SEQ ID No:8) and 5'-CGCGGATCCTTAGGACATGGCAGAGTCTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:9) and the following PCR conditions: 35 cycles of denaturation at 95°C for 30 seconds followed by annealing at 68°C for 15 90 seconds and extension at 72°C for 60 seconds. This PCR product was subcloned into the pCRII vector using the TA-cloning kit (Invitrogen) and followingrestriction by BamH1 and HindIII the cDNA was cloned into the mammalian expression vector pCEP4 (Invitrogen). cytoplasmic domain was obtained by PCR amplification (30 20 cycles: 95°C for 30 sec, 65°C for 1 min, 72°C for 1 minute) using Killer cDNA as template and the following primers: 5'-CGCGGATCCGTCCTCAATCTTCTGCTTGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:10) and 5'-CCCAAGCTTCCACCATGGTTGCAGCCGTAGTCTTG-3'. 25 (SEQ ID NO:11). The death domain was amplified using the primers 5'-CCCAAGCTTCCACCATGGACTCCTGGGAGCCGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:12) and 5'-CGCGGATCCGTCCTCAATCTTCTGCTTGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:13) and the same PCR conditions as the cytoplasmic domain. The PCR products were restricted with BamH1 and HindIII and subcloned into pCEP4. For in-situ RNA 30 hybridization, nucleotides 106 to 726 of Killer (Figure 1) by PCR amplification and TA-cloning into the pCRTMII (Invitrogen) vector in either sense or antisense orientation.

Transfections and apoptosis assays.

Transfection of SW480 cells was carried out as previously described (El Deiry et al., 1993, supra). TUNEL assays

were performed using SW480 cells transfected in 8-well chamber slides. After 36 hrs, TUNEL-positive cells were detected using the Apoptag Plus *In-situ* apoptosis detection kit-Fluorescein (ONCOR). Transfection efficiency in these experiments was 20%.

Chromosomal localization. Fluorescence in-situ hybridization (FISH) was performed by standard techniques as previously described (Krantz et al., Am. J. Med. Genet. 70: 80-86, 1997). Three P1 clones (Genome Systems) containing the Killer gene were labeled by nick translation with biotin-11-dUTP and hybridized to metaphase spreads from a normal individual. Chromosomes were counter-stained with 4,6-diamino-2-phenyl-indole (DAPI). Analysis was carried out on a Vysis imaging system and after FISH, DAPI staining was computer converted to a G-banding image for chromosome and band identification.

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In-situ mRNA expression. In-situ hybridization of frozen sections was performed using a modified version of the digoxigenin labeled method as described (Panoskaltsis-Mortari & Bucy, BioTech 18: 300-307, 1995). In brief, colonic tissue was snap frozen in OCT and stored at -80°C. Five μm sections were cut and placed on Probe-On slides (Fisher Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA). The tissue sections were thawed at room temperature for 1-2 minutes and fixed in 3% paraformaldehyde for 1 minute at room temperature. After one wash with 2 x SSC, the slides were incubated for 8 minutes in 0.2 M HCl and rinsed with 0.1 M triethanolamine, pH 8.0. The slides were then incubated in 0.25% acetic anhydride in 0.1 M triethanolamine, pH 8.0 for 15 minutes followed by a rinse with 2 x SSC. Pre-hybridization was performed at 50°C for 30 minutes in a solution containing 50% formamide, 4 x SSC, 1 x Denhardt's, 10% dextran sulfate, 500 μ g/ml of heat denatured salmon sperm DNA, and 250 μ g/ml of yeast tRNA. The slides were then hybridized in pre-hybridization solution containing heat-denatured

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(80°C) RNA probe at 50°C overnight. Following hybridization, the slides were rinsed in 2 x SSC for 5 minutes and STE (500 mM NaCl, 20 mM tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 1 mM EDTA) for 1 minute. After incubation in RNase A (40 μg/ml in STE) for 30 minutes at 37°C, the slides were washed with 2 x SSC containing 50% formamide for 5 minutes at 50°C followed by three washes with 1 x SSC and 0.5 x SSC, each for 5 minutes. Immunological detection of digoxigenin was carried out using a sheep-anti-digoxigenin antibody (Boehringer Mannheim, Indianapolis, IN). Digoxigenin labeled RNA probes for Killer (both sense and anti-sense) were transcribed from the T7 promoter of pCRTHII (Invitrogen), after linearization by digestion with HindIII, using the Riboprobe Gemini System 2 kit (Promega) and the Dig/Genius 4 RNA Labeling Kit (SP6/T7; Boehringer Mannheim).

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Targeting p53 for destruction. To generate a tumor cell line in which p53 function was lost, PA-1 cells were transfected with a human papilloma virus (HPV) 16 E6 expression plasmid that expresses E6 protein constitutively driven by the cytomegalovirus (CMV) immediate early promoter. PA-1 cells were transfected with either pCMV-neo-bam (referred to herein as either PA-1/neo or "wild-type") or pCMV16E6 (referred to herein as either PA-1/E6 or "degraded" to reflect the function of the E6 protein in degrading p53), as described previously (El-Deiry et al., 1993, supra). clones were isolated following selection in the presence of 500 μ g/ml G418 (Life Technologies, Inc.), as described by Baker et al., Science 249: 912-915 (1990).

Expression of the Death Domain of Killer in E. coli. E. coli cells were transformed with a pGEX vector expressing the death domain of the killer protein. Bacterial cells were seeded at low density and grown up overnight in L broth + ampicillin. SDS-PAGE was performed which confirmed that the protein was expressed

following induction with IPTG. The toxicity assay was performed in the presence and absence of glucose to rule out catabolite repression effects. Toxicity of the death domain was assessed by measuring absorbance at 520 nM in a spectrophotometer over a 5 hour time course.

Results

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The p53 tumor suppressor is the most commonly mutated gene in human cancer, and inherited mutations lead to the cancer-prone Li-Fraumeni syndrome. evidence that p53 is a key determinant of the sensitivity of mammalian cells to the cytotoxic effects of chemo- and radio-therapy. Biochemical studies have demonstrated that the majority of tumor-derived mutants of p53 have lost the ability to activate gene expression, suggesting that transcriptional activation by p53 may be critical for its role in the control of cell proliferation. Stabilization of p53 protein following virus infection, nucleotide depletion, hypoxia or DNA damage leads to cell cycle arrest and/or apoptosis. Cell cycle arrest is believed to be mediated by transcriptional activation of p21wari/cipi, a universal inhibitor of cyclin-dependent kinases and PCNA-dependent processive DNA replication. p53 upregulates expression of several genes involved in apoptosis, including bax and Fas/APO1. However, the fact that neither bax- nor Fas/APO1-null cells are deficient in DNA damage-induced (p53-dependent) apoptosis suggests that other mechanisms likely contribute to this process.

We previously found that targeted degradation of the p53 protein by HPV16 E6 overexpression in PA1 ovarian teratocarcinoma cells led to inhibition of adriamycin- induced apoptosis and chemoresistance. In order to explore the pathway of cell death in the chemosensitive PA1 cells, we carried out subtractive hybridization screening of a library enriched for adriamycin-induced transcripts (see Methods). Of the

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50,000 phage clones representing PA1 mRNA's expressed at 10 hrs following adriamycin treatment, 100 appeared to hybridize more strongly to a subtracted vs. control probe in primary screening. In secondary screening, 30 of the initially chosen 100 plaques reproducibly displayed 5 differential subtractive hybridization and were then used individually as probes of Northern blots carrying RNA from untreated vs. adriamycin-treated PA1 cells. p21war/cirl was one of six clones whose expression was increased 10 following adriamycin treatment, and its presence provided an indication that the subtraction had yielded at least one expected target. Another known gene that was isolated was Cathepsin D, a gene encoding a protease that was also recently isolated as an antisense suppressor of 15 cytokine-induced apoptosis. Of the other four (novel) cDNA's, one appeared to be strongly induced by adriamycin (doxorubicin) and, thus, was further characterized. Database analysis revealed that this novel gene (Figure 1) is a member of the TNF-receptor family. Based on the presence of a cytoplasmic death domain (Figure 1, 20 induction of its expression by cytotoxic chemotherapy (Figure 3) and induction of apoptosis by its overexpression, the novel gene was named Killer.

The Killer gene encodes a 411 amino acid polypeptide (Figure 1) of predicted molecular weight of 45 kD. The protein contains a cytoplasmic C-terminal death domain, a transmembrane domain, and a cysteine-rich extracellular N-terminal domain characteristic of the TNF-receptor family. At the protein level, Killer's closest homolog is DR4 with 55% identity and an additional 9% similarity over a 454 amino acid alignment. See Figure 2A. Figure 2b shows homology between the death domain of Killer and other TNF-receptor family members. This alignment revealed that within the death domain, Killer shares 64% identity with DR4, 28% with DR3, 19% with Fas/APO1, 29% with TNFR-1, and 31% with CAR1 (Fig. 2B).

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We examined the tissue expression pattern of the Killer gene by Northern (RNA) blot analysis. Tissues screened were spleen, thymus, prostate, testis, ovary, small intestine, colon, leukocyte, heart, brain, placenta, lung, liver, skeletal muscle, kidney and pancreas. A single transcript of 4.4 kb hybridized to the Killer probe and its expression appeared higher in tissues with rapid turnover as compared with nondividing tissues.

10 Because Killer was isolated as an adriamycininduced transcript, and because adriamycin is a potent inducer of p53 and p53-dependent growth suppression, we explored the possibility that Killer may be a p53-regulated gene. We examined Killer mRNA expression 15 in a series of 11 human cancer cell lines of known p53 status. Figures 3A and 3B show that Killer expression was induced following adriamycin exposure only if wild-type p53 was present but not in cells where it was mutated, degraded, or not expressed. These results strongly correlated p53-status with induction of Killer 20 gene expression following exposure of (11/11) human cell lines to the DNA damaging Topoisomerase II inhibitor We further found that Killer expression adriamycin. could be induced by other DNA damaging agents such as ionizing radiation or etoposide (Fig. 3B for example). 25 In order to more directly test the hypothesis that Killer is a p53-regulated gene, we infected human cancer cell lines lacking wt p53 by using a wt p53-expressing adenovirus. Fig. 3C shows that in each case tested, 30 Killer gene expression was increased by wt p53 overexpression in a manner similar to p21 (not shown). These results suggested that Killer is a gene whose expression is increased by the p53 tumor suppressor, even in the absence of DNA damage, raising the possibility that Killer may be a mediator in p53-dependent apoptosis. 35 This possibility is further supported by the fact that Killer expression is elevated early (increased at 10-12

hrs after exposure to adriamycin, gamma-radiation or Ad-p53) in cells that are undergoing apoptosis over a 24-48 hr time course.

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The identification of Killer as a novel p53and DNA damage-inducible death receptor suggested the possibility that Killer inactivation may contribute to tumor development and to resistance to apoptosis in vivo. In order to further explore this possibility, we determined the chromosomal localization of the Killer gene by in-situ hybridization using as probes three P1-clones containing the gene. Ten metaphases were examined for each P1 clone, and signal was detected on both chromosome 8's in all cells studied. The in-situ hybridization indicated that it localizes to chromosome 8p21, a hotspot for translocations in a number of different tumor types. Because recent experiments have demonstrated that the Type II TGF- β receptor and the bax genes may be mutated in colon cancers with microsatellite instability, we sequenced the death domain of Killer from normal DNA and colon cancer cell lines including 8 with microsatellite instability. We found no alteration involving a GAGAGAGA dinucleotide repeat located within the death domain of Killer (data not shown).

Because rapidly dividing tissues such as the gut express increased levels of *Killer*, we investigated its *in-situ* mRNA expression to determine if it correlates with apoptosis in human colon. We found that *Killer* is expressed in the proliferating/stem cell compartment of colonic crypt epithelia, a location which correlates with both spontaneous— and irradiation—induced apoptosis. We hypothesized that *Killer* expression may be downregulated in colonic tumor progression as a potential mechanism of inactivation in cancer. We found that *Killer* mRNA expression is low or undetectable in a colonic adenoma and two colon carcinomas with *p53* mutation. In addition, the Northern blot results in Fig. 3A show that the basal expression (in the absence of adriamycin exposure) of

Killer is lower in mutant p53-expressing SW480 cells and the p53-degrading HCT116-E6 cells as compared to wild-type p53-expressing HCT116-neo cells. It may be that loss of Killer expression in colon cancer may be due to p53 mutation. In this regard, the extreme 5'-end of the Killer gene (exon 1) has been previously isolated as a methylated CpG island (Genbank accession # Z66083). DNA methyltransferase expression level has been found to be increased in colonic polyps, at a stage of tumorigenesis that precedes the development of p53 mutation. It is possible that Killer gene expression may be regulated by DNA methylation, an epigenetic phenomenon that has been found to inactivate a number of tumor suppressor genes in cancer.

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We investigated the role of *Killer* in apoptosis by transfecting human colon cancer cells with vectors that express the full-length *Killer* cDNA, its cytoplasmic domain, or the death domain. Results showed that overexpression of *Killer's* death domain is sufficient to induce apoptosis in transfected cells. The apoptosis observed with the *Killer* expression vectors was similar in magnitude to *p53*-induced apoptosis in these cells (35% vs. 32% TUNEL-positive cells).

The death domain of Killer has been cloned into a pGEX vector. Following transformation of *E. coli* cells, and induction of protein expression with IPTG, growth of bacteria was assessed over a 5 hour period. The data in Figure 4 show that expression of the death domain is also toxic to bacteria. This toxicity was not a result of catabolite repression as shown by the +/- glucose controls.

We also investigated the effect of Killer on growth of colon and liver cancer cells. SW480 human colon cancer cells were transfected with either pCEP4 vector or pCEP4-killer, according to protocols described above. Transfected cells were selected with 0.25 mg/ml Hygromycin for two weeks, and stained with Coomassie

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Blue. The results of this experiment clearly demonstrated that killer is a potent inhibitor of human colon cancer cell growth: cells transfected with the pCEP4-killer construct were unable to grow, while cells transfected with vector alone were able to grow. Similar results were obtained with HepG2 hepatoblastoma cells.

In summary, we have isolated a novel cell death receptor (Killer) whose expression is induced by DNA damaging agents in a p53-dependent manner. Killer gene expression is also inducible by wt p53 overexpression in the absence of DNA damage. Overexpression of Killer leads to cell death of cancer cells, and a number of human cancers have decreased expression of the Killer gene. Members of the TNF receptor family signal apoptosis through adaptor molecules that directly activate the caspase cascade. The identification of Killer provides a potential mechanism by which DNA damaging agents can lead to p53-dependent apoptosis.

20 EXAMPLE 2 Involvement of Killer in p53-Dependent and -Independent Apoptosis but Not Growth Arrest

Using the subtractive hybridization approach described in Example 1 to isolate adriamycin-inducible transcripts from chemosensitive cells, we cloned the death receptor Killer as a DNA damage-inducible p53-regulated gene on chromosome 8p21. Overexpression of Killer induces apoptosis of human cancer cells and eliminates stable colony formation. Because Killer is a novel apoptosis-inducing gene that appears to be regulated by p53, we further explore in this Example its regulation in p53-dependent G1-arrest versus apoptosis. Additionally, we examined the mechanism of regulation of Killer by p53.

Materials and Methods

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Cell Lines and Culture Conditions. The normal human lung fibroblast cell line WI38, the human ovarian

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cancer cell line SKOV3, the human breast cancer cell line SKBr3, and the human colon cancer cell line SW480 were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (Rockville, MD). The human glioblastoma cell line GM (Mercer et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 87: 6166-6170, 1990) was obtained from Ed Mercer (Thomas Jefferson University).

Adenovirus Infection. The wild-type p53-expressing replication deficient adenovirus Ad-p53 and the LacZ-expressing adenovirus Ad-LacZ (El Deiry et al., 1993, supra) were obtained from Bert Vogelstein (Johns Hopkins University). Titering and infection with adenoviruses was carried out at an MOI of 50 as previously described (El Deiry et al., 1993, supra; Blagoskonny & El Deiry, 1996, supra).

RNA extraction and Northern Blot. RNA extraction and Northern blot were as described in Example 1. The full-length (1.34 kb) human Killer cDNA probe was described in Example 1. The full-length human p21WAF1/CIP1, MDM2 and p53 cDNA's are described elsewhere (El Deiry et al., 1993, supra). A human bax probe (Oltvai et al., Cell 74: 609-616, 1993; Miyashita et al., Oncogene 9: 1799-1805, 1994; Miyashita et al., Cell 80: 293-299, 1995) was provided by John Reed (Burnham Institute).

Apoptosis assays. GM cells were infected by Ad-LacZ or Ad-p53. After 30 hrs, cells were stained with DAPI as previously described (Blagoskonny & El Deiry, 1996, supra).

Determination of messenger RNA stability.

SW480 human colon adenocarcinoma cells were infected by either Ad-LacZ or Ad-p53 for one hour using an MOI of 50 as previously described (Blagosklonny & El Deiry, 1996, supra; Meng et al, Clin. Cancer Res. 4: 251-259, 1998). After an additional incubation at 37°C for 14 hrs., Actinomycin D was added to the cultures at a final concentration of 30 ng/ml. Total RNA was harvested at

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different time points after Actinomycin D addition as indicated in Fig. 4, and Northern blotting was performed as described above.

5 Results

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Killer expression is not increased in p53-dependent growth arrest. One of the major questions in elucidating p53 function has been to understand what determines whether cells undergo cell cycle arrest or apoptosis following p53 activation. We have found a perfect correlation between induction of Killer expression and exposure of wild-type p53-expressing human cancer cells to apoptosis-inducing cytotoxic agents (Example 1). Following exposure to lethal doses of agents such as adriamycin, etoposide, or ionizing radiation, only cells which contain wild-type p53 induced Killer expression. Cells with mutant or degraded p53 failed to upregulate Killer expression in response to genotoxic drugs. In order to investigate whether the p53-dependent upregulation of Killer is specific to cells undergoing apoptosis, we used two well established systems where p53 induction leads only to cell cycle arrest.

The human glioblastoma cell line GM contains an endogenous mutant p53 and an exogenous dexamethasone-inducible wild-type p53. Upon addition of dexamethasone to the media, it has been shown that these cells induce expression of wild-type p53 which in turn transcriptionally activates expression of p21, and the cells then undergo cell cycle arrest in G1-phase and not apoptosis. Fig. 5A shows that upon addition of dexamethasone, the expected induction in p21 expression is observed, but there is no accompanying upregulation of Killer expression. These results suggest that cells undergoing p53-dependent cell cycle arrest induce p21 as expected but do not induce expression of Killer, a putative mediator of p53-dependent apoptosis.

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In order to validate these observations in a different system, we chose to examine the expression levels of p21 and Killer in WI38 normal human lung fibroblast cells either with no treatment or following exposure to ionizing radiation. It has been shown previously that the wild-type p53 containing WI38 lung fibroblasts respond to g- irradiation by undergoing a prolonged cell cycle arrest associated with p21 upregulation, and not apoptosis. Following irradiation, p21 expression was induced as expected but Killer expression was not increased (Fig. 5B). In fact at 10 Gy, Killer mRNA expression appeared to be inhibited. These results are consistent with the hypothesis that the p53-dependent induction of Killer is "apoptosis-specific" and not a general response in cells undergoing only p53-dependent cell cycle arrest.

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Increased expression of Killer in cells undergoing p53-dependent apoptosis. To further investigate the hypothesis that p53-dependent upregulation of Killer expression may be a determinant of apoptosis induction, we infected GM cells with Ad-p53. GM cells were found to undergo apoptosis following Ad-p53 as compared to Ad-LacZ infection or dexamethasone treatment (Fig. 5A). Unlike the dexamethasone-treated GM cells which do not undergo p53-dependent apoptosis, the Ad-p53 infected cells upregulated expression of the Killer gene. We suspect that the higher levels of p53 achieved following Ad-p53 infection probably contribute to the apoptosis phenotype in GM cells. These results further correlate the p53-dependent induction of Killer with apoptosis.

We further investigated the kinetics of Killer upregulated expression following Ad-p53 as compared to Ad-LacZ infection of the SKOV3 human ovarian carcinoma cell line (Fig. 6B). Expression of Killer was detectably increased as early as 6 hours following Ad-p53 infection of the SKOV3 cells. This pattern of expression would be

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expected for genes involved in p53 mediated apoptosis which occurs over 1-3 days following Ad-p53 infection (Fig. 6A and data not shown).

transcriptional and post-transcriptional control of TRAIL death receptor expression in p53-dependent apoptosis. We further explored the mechanism by which Killer is induced following p53 overexpression in cancer cells undergoing apoptosis. We infected SKOV3 cells (Fig. 7A) or GM cells (Fig. 7B) using either Ad-LacZ or Ad-p53 for one hour followed by a 20 hr incubation in the presence of the transcription inhibitor

incubation in the presence of the transcription inhibitor Actinomycin D. Expression of the p53 targets p21, MDM2 and Killer was greatly increased in Ad-p53 as compared with Ad-LacZ infected SKOV3 cells in the absence of

15 Actinomycin D (Fig. 7A, compare lanes 3 to lanes 1). In the presence of Actinomycin D, the p53-dependent upregulation of p21, MDM2, and Killer was abrogated (Fig. 7A, compare lanes 4 to lanes 2). These results suggest that Killer, p21 and MDM2 appear to be regulated by p53 at the level of transcription. p53 mRNA levels were also

at the level of transcription. p53 mRNA levels were also not decreased by Actinomycin D in Ad-p53 infected cells (Fig 7A).

We investigated the effect of Actinomycin D on the expression of *Killer* following infection of GM cells by Ad-p53 or Ad-LacZ (Fig. 3B). The p53- dependent upregulation of *Killer* expression (Fig. 7B lane 3 vs. 1, upper panel) was blocked by Actinomycin D in GM cells (lane 4 vs. 3).

The present invention is not limited to the embodiments specifically described above, but is capable of variation and modification without departure from the scope of the appended claims.

PCT/US98/14495

- 43 -

SEQUENCE LISTING

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(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:
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                (i) APPLICANT: Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania
               (ii) TITLE OF THE INVENTION: NUCLEIC ACID ENCODING A NOVEL
       CHEMOTHERAPY-INDUCED PROTEIN, AND METHODS OF USE
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               (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 13
               (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
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                 (B) STREET: 1601 Market Street, Suite 720
. 15
                 (C) CITY: Philadelphia
                 (D) STATE: Pennsylvania
                 (E) COUNTRY: USA
                 (F) ZIP: 19103
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               (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
                 (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Diskette
                 (B) COMPUTER: IBM Compatible (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: DOS
                 (D) SOFTWARE: FastSEQ Version 1.5
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               (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
                 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: Not yet assigned
                 (B) FILING DATE: 10-JUL-1998
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                 (C) CLASSIFICATION:
               (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
                 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/052,305
                 (B) FILING DATE: 11-JUL-1997
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                 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/054,710
                 (B) FILING DATE: 04-AUG-1997
                 (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/060,473
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                 (B) FILING DATE: 30-SEP-1997
               (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
                 (A) NAME: Janet E. Reed, Ph.D.
                 (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 36,252
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                 (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: PENN J1638PCT
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(B) TELEFAX: 215-563-4044
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                 (C) TELEX:
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       Asp Arg Leu Glu Leu Gln Asn Gly Arg Cys Leu Arg Glu Ala Gln Tyr
                   20
                                        25
40
       Ser Met Leu Ala Thr Trp Arg Arg Arg Thr Pro Arg Arg Glu Ala Thr
                                    40
                                                         45
       Leu Glu Leu Leu Gly Arg Val Leu Arg Asp Met Asp Leu Leu Gly Cys
                                55
           50
       Leu Glu Asp Ile Glu-
45
                (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:
             (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
50
               (A) LENGTH: 67 amino acids(B) TYPE: amino acid
               (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
               (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
55
             (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
             (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
             (iv) ANTISENSE: NO
             (v) FRAGMENT TYPE: internal
             (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: Homo sapiens
60
             (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 7:
       Glu Trp Lys Arg Phe Gly Arg Ala Leu Asp Leu Gln Glu Asn Asp Leu
                                            10
                                                                 15
65
       Tyr Leu Ala Glu Gln His Glu Arg Val Ser Cys Glu Pro Arg Tyr Gln
                                        25
```

Met Leu Asn Thr Trp Leu Asn Gln Gln Gly Ser Lys Ala Ser Val Asn

- 48 -

```
40
       Thr Leu Leu Glu Thr Leu Pro Arg Ile Gly Leu Ser Gly Val Ala Asp
           50
                                 55
                                                      60
       Ile Ile Ala
 5
       65
                 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:
              (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
                (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
10
                (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
                (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
15
              (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA
              (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
              (iv) ANTISENSE: NO
              (v) FRAGMENT TYPE:
              (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: synthetic
20
              (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:
       CCCAAGCTTC CGCCATGGAA CAACGGGGAC
                                                                                   30
25
                 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:
              (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
                (A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
                (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
30
                (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
                (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
              (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA
              (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
              (iv) ANTISENSE: NO
35
              (V) FRAGMENT TYPE:
              (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: synthetic
              (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:
40
       CGCGGATCCT TAGGACATGG CAGAGTCTGC
                                                                                   30
                 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:
45
              (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
                (A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
                (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
                (C) STRANDEDNESS: single (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
50
              (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA
              (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO
              (iv) ANTISENSE: NO
              (v) FRAGMENT TYPE:
55
              (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: synthetic
             (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:
       CGCGGATCCG TCCTCAATCT TCTGCTTGG
                                                                                   29
60
                 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:
              (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:(A) LENGTH: 35 base pairs
65
                (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
                (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
                (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
```

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5	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO (iv) ANTISENSE: NO (v) FRAGMENT TYPE: (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: synthetic	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:	
10	CCCAAGCTTC CACCATGGTT GCAGCCGTAG TCTTG	35
	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:	
15	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:(A) LENGTH: 33 base pairs(B) TYPE: nucleic acid(C) STRANDEDNESS: single(D) TOPOLOGY: linear	·
20	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO(iv) ANTISENSE: NO(v) FRAGMENT TYPE:(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: synthetic	
25	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:	
	CCCAAGCTTC CACCATGGAC TCCTGGGAGC CGC	33
30	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13: (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:	
35	(A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs(B) TYPE: nucleic acid(C) STRANDEDNESS: single(D) TOPOLOGY: linear	
40	<pre>(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA (iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO (iv) ANTISENSE: NO (v) FRAGMENT TYPE: (vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE: synthetic</pre>	
	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEO ID NO:13:	
45	CGCGGATCCG TCCTCAATCT TCTGCTTGG	
	and a regional of the region o	29

- 50 -

What is claimed is:

- 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising an open reading frame of part or all of a gene located on human chromosome 8p21, which encodes part or all of a mammalian p53-inducible, apoptosis-mediating protein, which comprises an amino-terminal extracellular receptor domain, a transmembrane domain, and a death domain for protein-protein interactions.
- The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which encodes a human protein.
 - 3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, which is DNA.

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4. The DNA molecule of claim 3, which is a cDNA comprising a sequence approximately 1.2 kilobase pairs in length that encodes said p53-inducible, apoptosis-mediating protein.

- 5. The DNA molecule of claim 3, which is a gene, the exons of which comprise said open reading frame.
- 25 6. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, which encodes a polypeptide having a sequence substantially the same as SEQ ID NO:2.
- 7. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 6, which 30 encodes SEQ ID NO:2.
 - 8. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 8, which comprises SEQ ID NO:1.
- 9. A vector for transformation of a mammalian cell, which comprises the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

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- 10. A mammalian cell transformed with the vector of claim 9.
- 11. An oligonucleotide between 10 and 100 nucleotides in length, that specifically hybridizes with a pre-determined portion of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
- 12. An isolated nucleic acid molecule having a 10 sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) SEQ ID NO:1;
 - b) an allelic variant or natural
 mutant of SEQ ID NO:1;
- c) a sequence hybridizing with part or all of SEQ ID NO:1 or its complement and encoding a polypeptide substantially the same as part or all of a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:1; and
 - d) a sequence encoding part or all of a polypeptide having amino acid SEQ ID NO:2.
 - 13. A protein produced by expression of an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising part or all of an open reading frame of a gene located on human chromosome 8p21, said protein being a p53-induced apoptosis-mediating protein having an amino-terminal extracellular receptor domain, a transmembrane domain, and a death domain for protein-protein interactions.
- 14. The protein of claim 13, comprising an amino acid sequence substantially the same as SEQ ID NO:2.
- 15. The protein of claim 13, produced by expression of an open reading frame having a sequence substantially the same as SEQ ID NO:1.

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- 16. Antibodies immunologically specific for the protein of claim 13.
- 17. A protein produced by expression of a5 sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) SEQ ID NO:1;
 - b) an allelic variant or natural
 mutant of SEQ ID NO:1;
- c) a sequence hybridizing with part

 or all of SEQ ID NO:1 or its complement and encoding a
 polypeptide substantially the same as part or all of a
 polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:1; and
 - d) a sequence encoding part or all of a polypeptide having amino acid SEQ ID NO:2.

- 18. Antibodies immunologically specific for the protein of claim 17.
- which is unable to produce a functional protein normally produced by expression of an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising part or all of an open reading frame of a gene located on human chromosome 8p21, said protein being a p53-induced apoptosis-mediating protein having an amino-terminal extracellular receptor domain, a transmembrane domain, and a death domain for protein-protein interactions.
- 20. The genetically engineered mammal of claim 30 19, which is a mouse.

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GGA C C A C C C A C C C A C C C A C C C A C C C C C A C	8 8 8 8 8
COS	D
S C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	CCA CCT AGG CTG AGG ATG AGG ATG AGG ATG AGG ATG ATG A
S A AGT S A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P
9 5 5 8 8 8 8	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
111 CCCC CCC CCA GAG F F 7111 7111 CCC CCA 7111 7111 CCC CCC CCCA 7111 CCC CCC CCCA 7111 CCC CCC CCCA 71111 CCC CCC CCC CCCA 71111 CCC CCC CCC CCCA 71111 CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC	691/231 AGA AGC TCA CAN R S S 0 781/261 GAA OTC CAG GAG E V Q E 871/291 TCT CAG AGG AGG S : Q R R 961/321 CCC TTT GAC TCC P F D S 1051/351 GAC ACC TTG TAC D T L Y 1141/381 GGA GAG AGA CTT G E R L ; 1231/411 TCC TAA
61/21 62-63-63 63-75 151/51 151/51 151/51 131/11 131/11 1717 601/22	G CTG GGA GCT CAA CGA CCT GG D R S S Q R P G 781/261 A ATG GAA GTC CAG GAG CCA GCA GA M E V Q E P A E 8 1/291 A AGG TCT CAG AGG CCA GCA GC R S ' Q R R R L L 961/321 G GTG CCC TTT GAG TCC TGG GAG GO V P F D S W E P 1051/351 C AGG GAC ACC TTG TAC AGG ATG C R D T L Y T H L 1141/381 C ATG TCC TAA C ATG TCC TAA H S
A ST	A A A E S S E L E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E
20 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	E> gm gm tin g= <+ 8<
AMT NO O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
A AGG TCTG TCA TCA TCA TGA TGT TGA TGT TGA TGT TGA TGT TGA TGA	T GAG T GAG A A GAA A GAA A GAA A GAA A GAA A GAG A
AMA A COTO C TITO C TIT	lu v v y y ly tilt
S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	A COC C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
A A A A C C GIA A C C C G GIA A C C C G GIA A C C C G G C C G C C G C C G C C G C C	8° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5° 5°
6 600 C 600 A A 600 B 11 R A 600 B 12 R A 600 B 13 B A 600 B 14 B A 600	14
31/11 GCT TCG A S 121/41 GTT GTC V V V 211/71 211/71 COG GAC COG GAC COG GAC ACG ACG T T T 481/161 CCC ACG V C ACG V C ACG V C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	TGC TCA GGT GGT GGG GA C S G G G G D T NE TTG CAG CCC ACC CAG GT I L Q P T Q V 841/281 TCA GAG CAT CTG CTG GAA CC S E H L L E P 931/311 T CTG AGA CAG TGC TTC GAT GA L R Q C F D D L R V A K A E 1111/371 C TCT GTC CAC ACC CTG GA S V H T L L D G TTC ATG TCA CTG GTG GA G TTC ATG TCA CTG CTG CTG GA G TTC ATG TCA CTG CTG GA G TTC ATG TCA CTG
2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
CCA CAA CCA CCAA CCA CCAA CC	ATC TGC TCA I C S AGT ATC TTG GAG TCA GAG E S E ACT CTG AGA T L R GC TCT GTC A S V AAG TTC ATG K F H
OCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC CCC	ATC TGC I C I C S I GAG TCA I GAG ATA F GCC TCT A S S A AAG TTC A AAG TTC
= · · · ·	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S
CAG AAC O N L AAG ACC R T TC TC TC CTA AGT CTA AGT CTA AGT L S C R A A A A A A A A A A A A	AAA GGC ATC GGG CCC GGG ACT GAG T E E D N CGA GAT D N CGA GAT S G G S G S
TAN CAR POR PARTY AND STATE OF THE PROPERTY AND PARTY AN	The cts and coe a The cts and coe a The cts and cts and cts The cts and cts and cts and cts The cts and cts and cts and cts The cts and
8 8 8 8 8 8	TAC CTG N E L S CAT CCC L S CAT CCC CAT
8	
8	111 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
71 72 72 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75	631/211 GTC CTT CCT T V L P X 721/241 AAT GTC CTC A N V L N 811/271 GTC AAC ATG V N H L 901/301 AAG TTG GC G K L G L 1081/361 GTC AAC AAA A V N K V N K I 1081/361 GTC AAC AAA A V N K I 1081/361 GTC AAC AAA A V N K I 1081/361 GTC AAC AAA A V N K I 1081/361 GTC AAC AAA A V N K I 1081/361 GTC AAC AAA A V N K I 1171/391 GAC CAC TTG GAC CAC TTG D H L I
しょればのならはいはなるながらないのとれて	60 pg

FIG. 1

Killer protein DR4 protein	ਜ ਜ	MEQRGQNAPAASGARKRHGPGPREARGARPGPRVPKTLVLVVAAVLLL 48 ASGTEAAAATPSKVWGSSAGRIEPRGGGRGALPTSMGQHGPSAR-ARAGRAPGPRPAREASPRLKVHKTFKFVVVGVLLQ 79	∞ ∽
Killer protein DR4 protein	80	49 VSAESALITQQDLAPQQRAAPQQKRSSPSEGLCPPGHHISEDGRDCISCKYGQDYSTHWNDLLFCLRRTRCDSGEVELSP 128 80 VVPSSAATIKLHDQSIGTQQWEHSPLGELCPPGSHRSERPGACNRCTEGVGYTNASNNLFACLPCTACKSDEEERSP 155	82 V2
Killer protein DR4 protein	129	129 CTTTRNTVCQCEEGTFREEDSPEMCRKCRTGCPRGMVKVGDCTPWSDIECVHKESGIIIGVTVAAVVLIVAVFVCKSLLW 208 157 CTTTRNTACQCKPGTFRNDNSAEMCRKCSTGCPRGMVKVKDCTPWSDIECVHKESGNGHNIWVILVVTLVVPLLL 231	8
Killer protein DR4 protein	209	209 KKVLPYLKGICSGGGDPERVDRSSQRPGAEDNVLNEIVSILQPTQVPEQEMEVQEPAEPTGVNMLSPGES 279 232 VAVLIVCCCIGSGCGGDPKCMDRVCFWRLGLLRGPGAEDNAHNEILSNADSLSTFVSEQQMESQEPADLTGVTVQSPGEA 311 ** ** ** ** ** ** : * : * : * : * : * :	9 4
Killer protein DR4 protein	312	280 EHLLEPAEAERSQRRRLLVPANEGDPTETLRQCFDDFADLVPFDSWEPLMRKLGLMDNEIKVAKAEAAGHRDTLYTMLIK 359 312 QCLLGPAEAEGSQRRRLLVPANGADPTETLMLFFDKFANIVPFDSWDQLMRQLDLTKNEIDVVRAGTAGPGDALYAMLMK 391	7 0
Killer protein DR4 protein	360	360 WVNKTGRDASVHTLLDALETLGERLAKQKIEDHLLSSGKFMYLEGNADSAMS 411 392 WVNKTGRNASIHTLLDALERMEERHAKEKIQDLLVDSGKFIYLEDGTGSAVSLE 445	

FIG. 24

FIG. 2B

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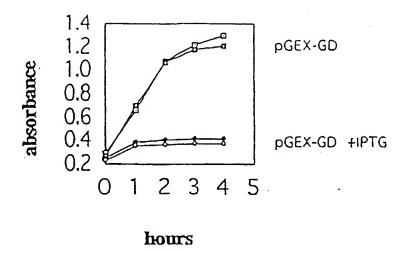
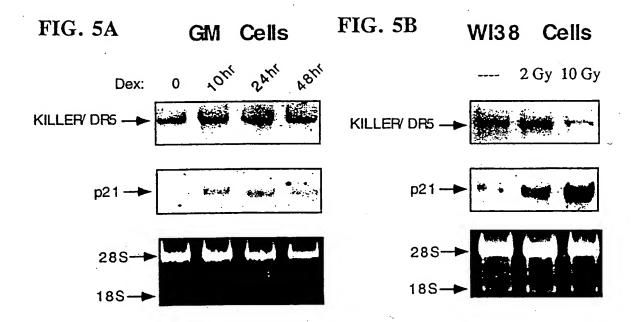


FIG. 4



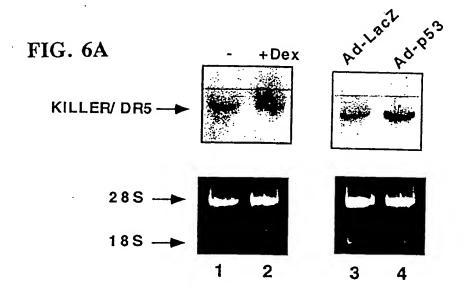
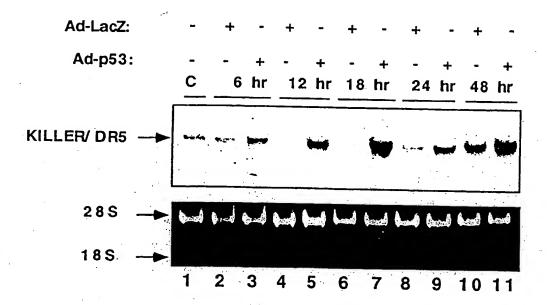
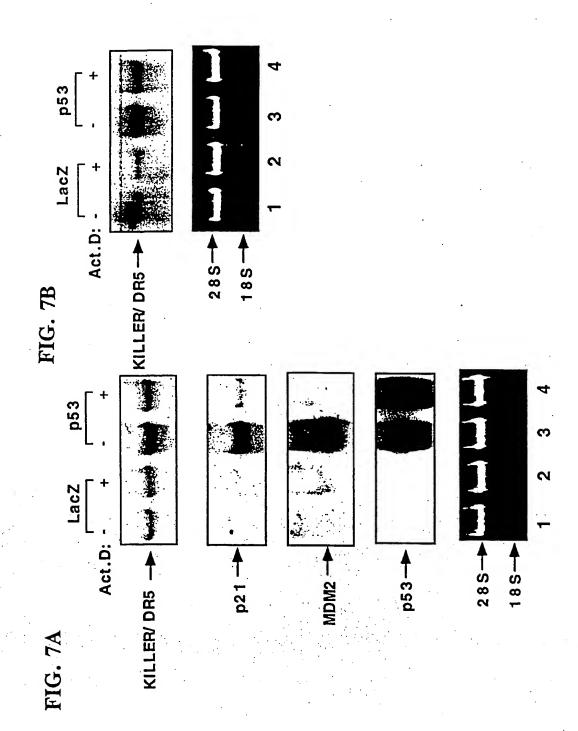


FIG. 6B





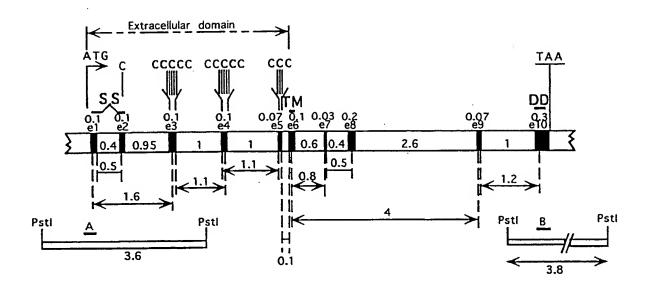


FIG. 8

FIG. 9

10	20	30	40	50	60
TGGCTCGTCTGTTCC	CTCTACGGCCC	CTCCGCATG	GCGCTCCACC	CCAGTCTTC	\GAAATT
ACCGAGCAGACAAGC	GAGATGCCGG	GAGGCGTAC	CGCGAGGTGG	GGTCAGAAG1	CTTTAA
70	80	90	100	110	120
TCTGCCTCAAGCTC	AGGGAGCTGG	PACTGAGGTA	CAGGTAGGAG	AAGGTGCAG	CTCTGC
AGACGGAGTTCGAG	rccctcgacc:	ATGACTCCAT	'GTCCATCCTC'	TTCCACGTC	GAGACG
130	140	150	160	170	180
TGAGTGGAGGACAT	GTGCCCTGGG	GATCCAGAGT	'CTANAGTGAC'	TGACACCAG	CCTGCA
ACTCACCTCCTGTAG	CACGGGACCC	CTAGGTCTCA	GATNTCACTG	ACTGTGGTC	GGACGT
190	200	210	220	230	240
ATTTGTCCTCCTAG	acctgttaac.	agagcctgc <i>i</i>	GAAGTTTACA	CAGGGCTGC'	TGAAGAT
TAAACAGGAGGATC	TGGACAATTG	TCTCGGACGI	CTTCAAATGT	GTCCCGACG.	ACTTCTA
250	260	. 270	280	290	300
TTTTATCCCCTCAT	TTTACAGGAA	GGAGCTGGG	SCCATACCANA	ntcagagct	GGACCGG
AAAATAGGGGAGTA	AAATGTCCTT	CCTCGACCC	CGTATGGTNT	NAGTCTCGA	CCTGGCC
310	320	330	340	350	360
GANCACGGCAGGGC	CCANCCATCC	ACAGCCTCC2	aatttcagtac	TCTCTAACA	ACCTGAN
CTNGTGCCGTCCCG	GGTNGCTAGG	TGTCGGAGG'	ГТАААСТСАТС	AGAGATTGT	TGGACTN
370	380	390	400	410	420
ANCCTGANCCTTCG	GATCTTCTTG	ATTCCTACT	rakaanaan A	laaggatggg	GTTGGAA
TNGGACTNGGAAGC	CTAGAAGAAC	TAAGGATGA	AACTATTTNTT	TTCCTACCC	CAACCTT
430	440	450	460	470	480
AGACTGGCATANAA	ATTGGACCAN	TCCGGCATT	GACANAACCAN	igaactgggg	TCCGGAA
TCTGACCGTATNTT	TAACCTGGTN	AGGCCGTAA	CTGTNTTGGTN	CTTGACCCC	AGGCCTT
490	500	510	520	530	540
CTGAACTCACTCCA	MGCTCATCTG	AATTCACCT	GACANCCTGA	LGATGGAAAA	CTTATTT
GACTTGAGTGAGGT	NCGAGTAGAC	TTAAGTGGA	CTGTNGGACT1	アアアコンスアン	GAATAAA
550	560	570	580	590	600
CCATTAACANGCAT	NGCGGTTGGC	ANGGACTGG	CCCCANCTGA	ACACGGTTTT	CCAATTA
GGTAATTGTNCGT	WCGCCAACCC	TNCCTGACC	GGGGTNGACT	igtgccaaaa	GGTTAAT
610	620	630	640	650	660
CACANCTGGGAAT	PAANTCTTCT	TGCCGCCCT	CCCCTGTTAT	TCTTGCCTGC	DODDTAKE
GTGTNGACCCTTA	attnagaaga(ACGCCGGGA	GGGGACAATA	AGAACGGAC	TTAGGGG
670	680	690	700	710	720
CCAGTCATCTACT	CCCAGTACCA	AAAATCCTGT	AAADTTOTTA	ATCCGTAGT	ACTGAGAG
CCTCAGTAGATGA	GGGTCATGGT ^e	PTTTAGGACA	TAAGAACTTT	TAGGCATCA	OTOTOADI
_10	208 TO	1109 OF F	1-KILLER-1	50	60>
730	740	750	760	770	780
GTGACAGCTTGCT	GGCAGTCCTC	AACAGCCCTC	CGCTCGCTCTC	GGCGCCTCC'	rctgcctg
CACTGTCGAACGA	CCGTCAGGAG	TTCTCGGGA	CGACCGAGAG	CCGCGGAGG	AGACGGAC
70	8_8 TO 1	109 OF P1-	-KILLER-1	_110	120>
790	800	810		830	840
GGCTCCCACTTTG					
CCCACCCCCAAAC	CCCCCTGAAC	TNCTCGGGA	AGTCGGGTGGC	GACGTGACA	CCCTCGGG

130	14_8 TO	1109	OF	P1-	KILLER-1	_170	180>
850	860		870		880	890	900
TTTTCTGGGCTG	GCCAAGGCT	GGAGC	CGC	TCC	CTCAGCTTGC	ACGGAGGTG	TGGANGGA
AAAAGACCCGAC	CGGTTCCGA	CCTCG	GCG	AGO	GAGTCGAACG	TGCCTCCAC	ACCTNCCT
190	20 8 TO	1109	OF	P1-	KILLER-1	230	240 =
010	920		930)	940	950	960
GAGGCGCGAGCG	200	COMOCI	המטיב הניה	, הכרנ	CC A CTTGCCCC	CCC ACCTCC	AGTOCCCC
GAGGCGCGAGCG CTCCGCGCTCGC	GGAACCGGG	CC I GC	2000	.00	COTO A ACCO	CCCMCC100	TC 3 3 CCCC
CTCCGCGCTCGC	CCITGGCCC	CGACG	~666	700	.CGIGAALGC	.CGGTCGACC	1CAAGGCC
250	26_8 TO	1109	OF	LT.	-KIDDEK-I	290	300;
						4040	4.00
. 970	980		990) 	1000	1010	1020
GTGGGCGTGGGC	TCGGCGGC	CCTGC	ACTO	:GG	AGCAGCCGGCC	GGCCCTGCC	GGCCCCGG
CACCGCACCCG	BAGCCGCCCG	GGACG	TGAC	3CC	rcgregecege	CCGGGACGG	CCGGGGCC
310	32_8 TC	1109	OF	P1	-Killer-1_	350	360;
1030	1040		1059)	1060	1070	1080
GCAATGANGGGT	TTAGCACCC	GGGCC	ANCO	GC.	TGCGGANGGT	TACTGGGTG	CCCCANCA
CGTTACTNCCC	LAATCGTGGG	CCCGG	TNG	ecq.	ACGCCTNCCAG	CATGACCCAC	GGGGTNGT
370	38 8 TC	1109	OF	P1	-KILLER-1_	410	420
1090	1100		1110	0	1120	1130	. 1140
ATGCCGGCCCAC							
TACGGCCGGGT							
8 TO 110						niconcoon	.00001000
8 TO III)9 OF FI-1	CTHIER					
140	do dd	. •		^	1100	1100	1200
1750 GCAGGGCTCGGG	1.199		11/	U -	1100	1130	1200
GCAGGGCTCGG	BACCGCCAT	3CCTGA	GCC.	TCT	CACCCCCTCC	GIGGGCICC	PGTGCAGCC
CGTCCCGAGCCC	CTGGCGGTA	CGGACT	CGG	AGA	GTGGGGGAGG	CACCCGAGG	ACACGTCGG
				_			
					1240		
GGAGCCTCCCCC							
CCTCGGAGGGG	CTGCTCGTG	BAGGG	GAC	GAG	CTCCCGCGG	TCAGGGTAG	ctggtgggt
							•
1270	1280		129	0	1300	1310	1320
AGGCTGAGGA	GTGCGGGCG	CACGGG	2GCG	GGA	GCACGGCGCG	GGACTGGCA	GGCAGCTCC
TCCCGACTCCT							
							. :
1330	1340		135	o	1360	1370	1380
ACCTGCAACCC							
TGGACGTTGGG							
							• •
1200	1400	•	141		1420	1430	1440
1390	1400		T#1		1420	1430	AAAU
GGACGTGGAGA							
CCTGCACCTCT	TGGAAATAC	AAATC	TTAE	CCC	TAACATITAT	GIGGITAAC	CGTGACACA
.1					•		
TARO	1460		147		1480	1490	1500
ATCTÁGCTCAA							
TAGATCGAGTT	CAAAACATT	TGTGT	GGT I	'AG'	rcgrggcacac	AGATCGAGT	CCCAAACAC
1510	1520		153	10	1540	1550	1560
AATGCACCAAT	TGACACTCT	GTATC	TAGO	AT:			
TTACGTGGTTA							
1570	1580		159	10	1600	1610	1620
ጥሮርልሮእርጥርጥር							

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1630	1640	1650	1660	1670	
GGATTGTAAACCA(CAATCAGCGC	CCTGTCAAA	CAGACCACTC	CGCTCTACC	AATCAGC
CCTAACATTTGGT	GTTAGTCGCG	GGACAGTTT	rgtctggtgag(GCGAGATGG'	TAGTCG
1690	1700	1710	1720	1730	1740
AGCGTGTGGGTGG	GGCCANGATAA	GAGAATAAA	AGCAGGCTGCC	AGAGCCAGC.	AGTGGTA
TCCCACACCCACC	CCGGTNCTATT	CTCTTATTT	TCGTCCGACGG	TCTCGGTCG	TCACCAT
1750	1760	1770	2788	17790	1800
ACACTGTGGAAGT	TTCCTTCTTTC	CCTCTGCAA	TAAATCTTGCT	ACTIGCTCA	CICIPIG
TGTGACACCTTCA	AAGGAAGAAA O	GGAGACGTT	ATTTAGAACGA	TGAACGAGT	GAGAAAC
1 T	O 2663 OF E	Ciller (ful	l CDNA& & P	romoter)_	.0>
1	01 TO	815 OF WU	/9/12/CHOP_	5	0>
1,810,	1820	¥830	1840	1850	1860
GGTCCACANTGC	тттатĞҚĞСТ	YTDADAATD	ACCTTGAAGGT	CTGCAGCTT	CACTCTT
CCAGGTGTNACGG	AAATACTCGA	ACATTGTGA G	TGGAACTTCCA	GACGTCGAA	GTGAGAA
60 1 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FULL	CDNA& & PRO	MOTER)_11	.0>
607	01 TO 8	15 OF WU/9	/12/CHOP_00	11	.0>
11870	/¥890	1890	1900	1910	1920
GAAGCCÄGCGAGA	CG & CC & CG CC	ACCGGGAGGA	AAGAACAACTC	CAGACCCAC	TGCCTTA
CTTCGGTCGCTCT	CCACCACCACCCC	TCCCCCTCCT	AUTO TO THE PARTY OF THE PARTY	CTCTCCCTC	ACGGAAT
_1201 TO	OCCIOCION	1.5 PD / PITT.T	ממשבונטונטונים.	MOTER 1	in .
_1201 TO	7003 OF MI	DEEK(FULL	CDINA & PAC		70
_1201			•		
1930	1940	1950	1960	1979	/108/
AGAGCTGTAACA					
TCTCGACATTGT					
_1801 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FULL	CDNA& & PRO	DMOTER)_23	30>
_18019	901 TO 8	15 OF WU/9)/12/CHOP_20	2	30 <u> </u> >
	2000				
ACCCACCAGAAG	CAAGAAACTCC	GAACACATCO	GAACATCAGA	AGGAACAAA	CTCCAGAC
TGGGTGGTCTTC	CTTCTTTGAGG	CTTGTGTAGG	CTTGTAGTCTT	CCTTGTTTC	BAGGTCTG
_2401 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FULL	CDNA& & PRO	OMOTER) 29	90 >
_2102	501 TO 8	15 OF WU/	7/12/CHOP_8	29	90>
2050	2060	2070	2080	2090	2100
ACGCCGCCTTTA	RGAACIGIAAC	ACTCACCGCC	AGGGTCCGAG	CTTCATTC:	TTGAAGGC
TGCGGCGGAAAT	ICTTGACATTG	TGAGTGGCG	CTCCCAGGCTC	CGAAGTAAG	AACTTCCG
_3001 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FULL	CDNA& & PRO	OMOTER)_3	50>
_3003	101 10 8	15 OF WU/	7/12/CHOP_40	3.	50>
2110	2120	2130	2140	2150	2160
AGTGAGACCAAG	AACCCACCAAT	TCCGGACAC	AGTACCATGAA	GAATGAAA	ATACHTAR
TCACTCTGGTTC	TTGGGTGGTTA	AGGCCTGTG'	CATGGTACTT	COUNT COUNTY	PARCHARM
_3601 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FIII.I.	CDNAL L DRO	OMOTEDI 4	IA TOTALI
_3603	70 1 TO 8	15 OF WILL	או ממשמ/ 17/2	201ER1_4.	10>
		23 OL 1107.	7/12/CnOF_0	4-	LO
7170	7280	2190	2200	2210	2220
Caatgtgatgta	PCÁŤĠŤŤ¶PAT	TTCCTAGACT	TAGTGACAAAT	2 A A A C C C D A A C	3mCms acs
GTTACACTACAT	AGTACAAAAT A	AAGGATCTG	TCACTGTTTAC	יווייווירור על איווירור	~ A C A M C C M
_4201 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FULL	CDNAG & PRO	MOTEDI AT	20
_4204	301 7 8	15 OF WU/9	7/12/CHOP_60	04	70>

					
2230 AGGGTGCAGGGACA	2269/	2.	2260	2270	2280
2230	CECCACATT	TGTĞĞAC'ÎA	(GGTGTGAGTG	raagctgggt ¹	CGATGG
	$A \sim M \sim C \sim C \sim T \sim \Delta \Delta$	ACACCTGAT		メエエクロリクククル	10011100
	acks of UTT.	LER (FIII.L.	CONAL & PK	ロいひょ アン・フィ	
_4801 TO . _480490	1 00 01	5 OR WILL	1/12/CHOP 2	053	0>
_480491	01 10 81	J OF WO.	,, 12, 0		
	2300	2210	2320	2330	2340
2290	2300	431U	ይ ጋደ ሀ እርመጽ እ እ እ እመልር	ን እስ ያለጥጥል ርርር የነገር ለጥጥል ይለል ል	CAGGCGT
TCTTTTGGCCAAC	ATAGTGAACCC	CIGIGICIA	™⇔⊁₩₩₩₩₽₽₩	መመመጥጥስ አጥሮር የሚያያያያያያያያያያያ	GTCCCCA
TCTTTTTGGCCAAC AGAAAACCGGTTG	TATCACTIGGG	GACACAGA	IGNIIIIAIG	ONOMER! EQ	n >
AGAAAACCGGTTG _5401 TO	2663 OF KIL	LER(FULL	CDNAK & FA	0.0101010	
_5401 10 _54055	01 TO 81	.5 OF WU/	9/12/CHOP_6	.0	<u> </u>
2350	2360	2370	2380	2390	2400
GGTGGTGCAGGCC	TGTAGTCCCAC	CTACATGG	GAGGCTGAGGT	GGGAGTATCG	CTTGAAC
	ゝゝゝゕゕ゚゚゚゚ヽゕゟゟゟゟゟ゚゚゚゚゚゚゚゚゚゚	CATGTACC	CTCCGACTCCA	ACCCTCATAGE	GAACTIG
	SECT OF KIT	CER (FULL	. CDNA& & PI	(OMOLEK) _65	·U
_60061	01 TO 8	15 of WU/	9/12/CHOP_4	1065	0>
2410	2420	2430	2440	2450	2460
amagan Chaccall	CONGCAGTGA	CCCGGGATC	'ACACCACCGA'	TCACCAATCIV	BAGCCACA
	PC & & CGTC & CTY	CGGCCCTAC	TGTGGTGGCT.	AGTGG'I''I'AGAG	ricegrer
6601 TO	2663 OF KI	LLER (FULI	CDNA& & P	ROMOTER)/:	LU
					916>
6601	TO 815 OF W	U/9/12/C	HOP7	00>	
2470	2480	2490	2500	2510	2520
GAGAGACTGTCT	ይደርር ልልልጥልልል	CCACAAGG	AAGGGAGGTAG	GGGGAGGGG	AGGGAGGG
GAGAGACTGTCT CTCTCTGACAGA	CANAGAMANTA TAGA :	CCTCTTCC	TTCCCTCCATC	CCCCTCCCCC	TCCCTCCC
_7201 TO	GLLLLIATII	TITED / FIII.	r. CDNA& & P	ROMOTER) 7	70>
	2003 01 114	916 OF B	ESERVE K-2	60	70>
20	_301 10)			
	2540	2550	2560	2570	2580
2530 AGGAAAGAGAAA	2340	.xccx	CAAAGCAGGAA	GGACGGAAAG	AAGACGAA
AGGAAAGAGAAA TCCTTTCTCTTT	GAGAGAAAGGA	 ₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩₩	Ċ₩₩ĠĊ₩ĠĊ₩		TTCTCCTT
7801 TC	CICICITICCI	LACTITET	T. CONTAC C.	R / HATTOMORE	30 >
1 TC	2663 OF K	775 75 75	ECEDING R - 2	120	130 >
80	_901 10	210 05 8	BOARVE K-2_	, A & V	
	2600	2610	2620	2630	2640
2590 AGAACGAAAGA	2600	2010	2020	2030	AACCCCCA
AGAACGAAAGA	(AACGAAAGAA		GAAGAGAAA	ONCORNORSONO ONCORNORSONO	MUCCCCCM
TCTTGCTTTCTT	LLICCLIT	PPPPCCTT1	CITCICICITY		110000
_8401 TO	2663 OF K	ILLER (FUL	T CDNA &	PROMOTER)_6	190
140	_1501 TO	916 OF F	RESERVE K-2.	_180	_190>
<u>@</u>				1 1 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	
2650	2660	267,0	2680	2690	2700
GGTGCCCCTGG	GAAGGGGAGAA	GATÇAAGA	CGCGCCTGGAA	AGCGGATTNT	IAACNTCAA
CCACGGGGACC	CTTCCCCTCTT	CTAGTTCTC	SCGCGGACCTT	TCGCCTAANA(CTTGNAGTT
9001 T	O 2663 OF K	ILLER (FU	LL CDNA& &	Promoter)	>50>
200	_2101 TO	916 OF I	RESERVE K-2	_240	_250>
			•		
2710	2720		2740		
GACCCTGTTCA	CAGCCAAGCGC	GCGACCCCI	GGGAGGCGTCA	ACTCCCCAAG	PGCCTCCCT
CTGGGACAAGT	GTCGGTTCGCG	CCCTCCCC	CCCTCCGCAGT	TGAGGGGTTC	ACGGAGGGA
9601 T	O 2663 OF K	ILLER (FU	LL CDNA& &	PROMOTER)	010
1 TO 916	OF RESERVE	K-2	· ·		
			*	000	0.000

CAACTCATTTCCC	CCAAGTTTCC	GTGCCTGTCC	TGGCGCGGAC	AGGACCCAGAA	ACAAAC	
GTTGAGTAAAGGG	GGTTCAAAGC	CACGGACAGG	ACCIGCIGCCTG	TCCTGGGTCTT	"IGI"I"IG	
10201 TO	2663 OF KI	ILLER (FULL	CDNA& & PR	COMOTER)_070	·>	
2830	2840	2850	2860	2870	2880	
CACAGCCCGGGGG						
GTGTCGGGCCCCC	GTCGCGGTC	СССТТССААТ	CAAGGAAAGG	GAAGGGGAGGG	GTTGAA	
10801 TO	2663 OF K	TLER (FULL	CDNAS & PR	OMOTER) 130) >	
10801	2005 OL 10.		_>			
			>			
2890	2900	2910	2920	2930	2940	
GGAAGGGGTTTGC						
CCTTCCCCAAACG	CTCCTAAC	GCAACTGCTCT	GAGAATAAAT	TAACAGTGGTT	GACACC	
11401 TO						
Oct						
-2950 -1	2960	2970	2980	2990	3000	
TGGAATTTGCAG						
ACCTPANACGTC	ACGTGTAAC	CTAGACTAAGG	CGGGGGGGG	CTTACTGCGAC	GGCCTC	
12001 TO	2663 OF K	ILLER(FULL	CDNA& & PF	ROMOTER)_25	>>	
3010				3050		
GCAGTGAAAGTAG	CAGCCGCCCC	GCCCCAAGTC	AGCCTGGACA	ACATAAATCAG	CACGCGG	
CGTCACTTTCATC	TCGGCGGG	CGGGGTTCAG	rcggacctgt1	IGTATTTAGTC	GTGCGCC	
12601 TO						
a	HAT BOX	τ	ATA	3110		
3079	3080	309,0	3100	3110	3120	
CCGGAGAACCCC	зсаатст <mark>ст</mark> б	CGCCCAGAAA	ATACACCGAC	GATGCCCGATC	TACTTTA	
GGCCTCTTGGGG	CGTTAGAGAC	GCGGGT\$TTT	PATGTGGCTG	CTACGGGCTAG.	TAAADTA	
13201 TO	2663 OF K	ILLER (FULL	CDNA& & PI	ROMOTER)_37	ر _{مرسس}	
3130 AGGGCTGAAACC TCCCGACTTTGG			22.44	24 72	2100	Putative
3130	3140	3150	3160	31701	7180	tinas.
AGGGCTGAAACC	CACGGGCCTG	AGAGAGIATA	AGAGCGTTCC	CTACCGCCATG	GAACAAC	c1
TCCCGACTTTGG	GTGCCCGGAC	TCTCTGATAT	TUTUGUAAGG	GATGGCGGTAC	CLIGITG	7:511115
13801 TO	2663 OF K	Threwibon	CDNA& & P.	ROMOTER)_43	·	
3100	3200	3210	3220	3230	3240	
GGGGACAGAACG						
CCCCTGTCTTGC						
14401 TO						
14401 10	2003 OF F	CTDDEK (1°011	CDMAR & F	NOMOTEKI_45	·	,
3250	3260	3270	3280	3290	3300	
AGGCGCGGGGAG						
TCCGCGCCCCTC	GGTCCGGACG	CGGGGCCCAG	GGGTTCTGGG	AACACGAGCAA	CAGCGGC	
15001 TO	2663 OF I	CILLER (FULL	CONA& & P	ROMOTER) 55	0 >	
		4: 4:	· · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
3310	3320	3330	3340	3350	3360	
CGGTCCTGCTGT				AACAAGACCTA	GCTCCCC	
GCCAGGACGACA						
15601 TO						
3370	3380	3390	3400	3410	3420	
AGCAGAGAGCGG	CCCCACAAC	AAAAGAGGTCC	AGCCCCTCAG	SAGGGATTGTG1	CCACCTG	•
TCGTCTCTCGCC						
16201 TO	2663 OF	Killer (fuli	CDNA& & P	PROMOTER)_67	/0>	

3450

3470

3480

GACACO	ATA:	rcro	AGAA	GACG	GTAGAGATTG	ATCTCC	rgc	AAATATGG	CAGGA	ATATA.
CTGTGC	TAT	AGAC	TCTT	CTGC	CATCTCTAACC	TAGAGG	ACG	TTTATACC	GICCI	GATAT
1680_	1	TO	2663	OF	KILLER (FULI	. CDNA&	ć.	PROMOTER	_/30_	>
							• •	252		2540
	349	0	3	500	3510	35	2U	3536) 	3540
GCACTO	CACT	GGA.	ATGAC	CTCC	TTTTCTGCTT	3CGCCGC	ACC	AGGTGTGA	PICAGO	TGAAG
CGTGA	TGA	CCT	PACTG	GAGG	AAAAGACGAA	CGCGGCG'	TGC	TCCACACT	AAGTCC	CACTTC
1740_	1	TO	2663	OF	KILLER (FUL	L CDNA&	ξĸ	PROMOTER	_/90_	>
								260	•	7.600
	355	٥	3	560	3570	35	80 	359	0	3600
TGGAG	CTAA	GTC	CCTGC	ACC	ACGACCAGAAA	CACAGTG	TG!	CAGTGCGA	AGAAG	CACCT
ACCTO	GATT	CAG	GGACG	TGG	rgctggtcttt	GTGTCAC	AC/	AGTCACGCT	TCTTC	CGTGGA
1800_	1	TO	2663	OF	KILLER (FUL	L CDNA&	64	PROMOTER	1-820	>
								2.55	•	2660
	361	0	3	620	3630	36 	40	305	0 . maaas	3660
TCCGG	GAAG	AAG.	ATTCI	CCT	GAGATGTGCCG	GAAGTGC	CG	CACAGGGTG	TCCCA	ADDDAE
AGGCC	CTTC	TTC	TAAG	\GGA	CTCTACACGGC	CTTCACG	GC	STGTCCCAC	AGGGT	CTCCCT
1860_					KILLER (FUL					
	367	0	3	3680	3690	37	00	371	0	3720
TGGTC	AAGO	TCG	GTGAT	rtgt.	ACACCCTGGAG	TGACATO	GA.	ATGTGTCCA	CAAAG	AATCAG
ACCAG	TTCC	:AGC	CACTI	AACA	TGTGGGACCTC	ACTGTAG	CT	TACACAGGT	GTTTC	TTAGTC
1920	1	TO	2663	OF	KILLER (FUL	L CDNA	. &c	PROMOTER)_970	>
	373	0		3740	3750	37	60	377	0	3780
GCATC	ATC	DATA	GAGT	CACA	GTTGCAGCCGT	AGTCTTG	TA	TGTGGCTGT	GTTTG	TTTGCA
					CAACGTCGGCA					
1980	1	TO	266	3 OF	KILLER (FUL	L CDNA	£ &	PROMOTER	1_030	>
_										
•	379	0	. :	3800	3810	38	320	383	0	3840
AGTCC	TTA	CTGT	'GGAA	GAAA	GTCCTTCCTTA	CCTGAAA	\GG	CATCTGCTC	AGGTG	GTGGTG
TCAGG	AATO	SACA	CCTT	CTTT	CAGGAAGGAAT	'GGACTT'	rcc	GTAGACGAG	TCCAC	CACCAC
2040_		L TC	266	3 OF	KILLER (FUL	L CDNA	£	PROMOTER	.) _090	>
,	389	50.		3860	3870	38	80	389	0	3900
GGGAC	CCT	BAGO	GTGT	GGAC	AGAAGCTCACA	ACGACCI	ľGG	GGCTGAGG	CAATG	TCCTCA
CCCTC	GGA	CTCG	CACA	CCTG	TCTTCGAGTG1	TGCTGG	ACC	CCGACTCC1	GTTAC	AGGAGT
2100_		L. TC	266	3 OF	KILLER (FUI	L CDNA	. &	PROMOTER	150	>
		•		,		•		•		
	39:	LO		3920	3930	39	40	399	0	3960
ATGAG	ATC	GTGA	GTAT	CTTG	CAGCCCACCCA	GGTCCCT	ľGA	GCAGGAAA1	GGAAG	TCCAGG
TACTO	TAG	POAC	CATA	GAAC	GTCGGGTGGG1	CCAGGG!	CT	CGTCCTTT	CCTTC	AGGTCC
2160_		LTC	266	3 OF	KILLER (FUI	L CDNA	٤ 4	PROMOTE	2)_210	<u> </u>
						•				
• • • •	39	70 -		3980	3990	40	000	401	.0	4020
AGCC	IGCA	GAGC	CAAC	AGGI	GTCAACATGTT	GTCCCC	2GG	GGAGTCAGA	GCATC	TGCTGG
TCGGT	CGT	CTCC	GTTG	TCCA	CAGTTGTACA	CAGGGG	SCC	CCTCAGTCT	CGTAG	ACGACC
2220		1 TC	266	3 OF	KILLER (FUI	L CDNA	£ &	PROMOTE	k)_270	>
:				•		•			_	
						. 40				4080
AACCC	GCA(GAAC	CTGA	AAGG	TCTCAGAGGAG	GAGGCT	3CT	GGTTCCAG	CAAATG	AAGGTG
TTGG	CGT	CTTC	GACT	TTCC	CAGAGTCTCCTC	CTCCGA	2GA	CCAAGGTC	TTTAC	TTCCAC
2280_		1 TC	266	3 OF	KILLER (FUI	L CDNA	£ &	PROMOTE	1)_330	>
				٠						
	40	90		4100	4110	4:	120	413	0	4140
ATCC	CACT	GAG	CTCT	Gaga	CAGTGCTTCG	TGACTT	rgc	AGACTTGG	GCCCT	

2340									PROMOTER)_390	
	415	٥	4	160	41	.70	41	80	4190	4200
CCTGGG	BAGC	CGC1	CATG	AGG2	LAGTTGGC	CCTC	ATGGAC	AA'I	GAGATAAAGGTGG	CIAAAG
			CONTRACT	יתיכיי	የጥሮ ኔ እብሮር	GGAGG	racctg'	\mathbf{rr}	CTCTATTCCACC	GATTIC
2400_	1	TO	2663	OF	KILLER	(FULL	CDNA&	<u>&</u>	PROMOTER)_450	·>
	421	Λ	4	220	4:	230	42	40	4250	4260
	421	· ·	~~~».	יאמכי	CACACCT	TGTAC	ACGATG	CTO	ATAAAGTGGGTCA	LACAAAA
CTGAG	GCAG		3CCW/	ישטטי ישטער	בתיבתינינים זי	CATG	TGCTAC	GA	TATTTCACCCAGT	TGTTTT
GACTC	CGTC	GCC	26616	3100	ם מוזדע	/FIII.T.	CDNA	£	PROMOTER)_51)>
2460_	1	TO	2663) OF	KILLER	(1011	C	-	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	
				4200	, Д	290	43	00	4310	4320
	427	0		1200 1000	ראראריי	TGCTG	GATGCC	TT	GGAGACGCTGGGA	GAGAGAC
CCGGG	CGAG	AIG	COTO	1010	CACACC	ACGAC	CTACGG	AA	CCTCTGCGACCCT	CTCTCTG
GGCCC	GCTC	TAC	GGAG	ACAG	VTITED	(FIII.I	CONA	. د	PROMOTER)_57	<>
2520_	³	TO	266.	3 OF	KILLER	(1000	CD11110	-		
				4340	. 4	350	43	60	4370	4380
	43.	3 U		2220	, , , , , , ,	TCTT	AGCTCI	'GG	AAAGTTCATGTAT	CTAGAAG
TTGCC	AAG	CAGA	AGAT	10W	ころのことができ	ממממ	TCGAG	VCC	TTTCAAGTACATA	GATCTTC
AACGC	TTC	GTCI	TCTA	ACTO		A COURT I	CDMA		PROMOTER) 63	0>
2580_		1 TC	266	3 01	KILLER	((2011	CDMAG		PROMOTER)_63	
	.43	90		4400)					
cm3.30	. C . D . C . D . D		CTCC	CAT	STCCTAA-					
GTAA		CITIC!	GACG	GTA	CAGGATT-					
CATT	WCG.T.	0 C C C) OF	KTI.	LER (>				
26.1	70	Z00.	3 OF	*****		-				

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/14495

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER 170(6) - CLAN 5/00 15/10 15/12 15/63									
IPC(6) :C12N 5/00, 15/00, 15/10, 15/12, 15/63 US CL :Please See Extra Sheet.									
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC									
B. FIELDS SEA	RCHED	by classification symbols)							
	stion searched (classification system followed b								
	, 455, 462, 463, 320.1, 325; 536/23.1, 23.5,								
Documentation search	thed other than minimum documentation to the ex	xtent that such documents are included	in the fields scarched						
	consulted during the international search (nam	e of data have and, where practicable	s, search terms used)						
		ic of data base and, whore presentation							
MEDLINE, BIOS	IS, EMBASE, CAPLUS, WPIDS, APS uth domain, killer, apo 2, tumor necrosis factor	r receptor, apoptosis, p53, inducible,	transgenic, TRAIL						
	IS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT								
Category* Cit	ation of document, with indication, where appr	ropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
A ADE	RKA, D. The Potential Biological	and Clinical Significance of	1-20						
the S	soluble Tumor Necrosis Factor Rece	eptors. Cytokine & Growth	,						
Facto	or Reviews. 1996, Vol. 7, No. 3,	, pages 231-240, see entire							
docu	ment.								
A,P US 5	5,763,223 A (WILEY et al.) 09 June	: 1998, see entire document.	1-20						
	97/18323 A3 (ICOS CORPORA	TION) 22 May 1997, see	1-20						
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Further doc	uments are listed in the continuation of Box C.								
	ROLLER OF CITED OCCUMENTS.	eTe later document published after the is date and not in conflict with the ap	blication part cared to minearante						
A document of to be of pe	lefining the general state of the art which is not considered rticular relevance	the principle or theory underlying to "X" document of particular relevance;							
	ument published on or after the international filing date	eXe document of particular relevance; considered novel or cannot be consi- when the document is taken alone	dered to involve an inventive step						
cited to es	which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is tablish the publication date of another citation or other	ave downer of periouser relevance.	the claimed invention cannot be						
	son (as specified) referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other	considered to involve an inventi combined with one or more other si being obvious to a person skilled it	uch documents, such combunicate						
m earns	published prior to the international filing date but later than	*& document member of the same pat	•						
the priority	y date claimed	Date of mailing of the international							
Date of the actual	completion of the international search	28 OCT 1998							
30 SEPTEMBE	R 1998	NO 00 1 1000							
Name and mailin	g address of the ISA/US	Authorized officer	ilb						
Commissioner of Box PCT	Patents and Trademarks	JILL D. MARTIN	Gr.						
Washington, D.C.	. 20231 /703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-0196	₹						

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/14495

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: US CL : 435/69.1, 455, 462, 463, 320.1, 325; 536/23.1, 23.5, 24.31; 530/350, 387